



THE PHILATELIC WEST

MADE IN SUPERIOR NEBRASKA.
U.S.A.

Chas. Molnar, owner
Arcade Stamp & Coin
Co., Cleveland, Ohio.
Look up ads.



Saterlee, Detroit, and
his girl. He just issued
finest catalog of fire-
arms for collector seen
so far. Look up ads.

STAMPS
COINS
CURIOS
RELICS
POST CARDS
FIREARMS



The Misses Hippchen, who with their father, are leading
Stamp Dealers in Chicago. See Ads.

Novelties in Coins

England, 1927, the new silver coins, entirely new designs and including the first silver crown or 5 shillings of George V. Set of 3 and 6 pence, shilling, 2 shillings, 2½ shillings and 5 shillings or crown, all brilliant proofs. Issued in limited numbers, set	\$6.00
England, 1692, ½ penny of William and Mary, with their busts, very good	.40
U. S. Silver trade dollar, very good	1.10
Five different dates of U. S. 5c silver pieces, with bust of Liberty, issued 1829-1837, fine	1.10
Five different dates U. S. ½ cents, very good	1.25
Malta, tiny ¼ farthing of George V., unc., red	.12
Jersey (Island) 1923, new issue penny, bright red	.25
Poland, 1600-15 silver 3 groszy of Sigismund III., very early date, fine	.25
1926 Sesqui-Centennial ½ dollar, busts of Washington and Coolidge, unc.	1.50
10 different dates U. S. large copper cents	.65
France, 1791-93 large 2 sous of Louis XVI. made of bell metal, very good	.40
Japan, (1800) silver ¼ bu, rectangular shape, very curious, unc.	.30
Japan, (1800) silver bu, similar to above, but larger, unc.	.75
Siam, about 1800, silver tical bullet money, so called from shape resembling a bullet, fine	.90
Ancient Rome, 45 B. C. silver denarius or penny of Julius Caesar, obv. an elephant, fine	1.25
Arabia, 600 A. D., bronze fish-hook money, so called from shape, fine	.90
Laos (Northern Siam) brass lat or boat money, resembling a canoe, fine	1.00
England, tiny silver Maundy penny of Victoria or Edward VII., one of the smallest silver coins, unc., each	.25
1857-58 U. S. flying eagle cent, the pair	.15
\$5.00, \$10.00 and \$20.00 Confederate bills, 1864 issue, fine, the three	.15
Siam porcelain money, very curious, fine	.40
(1799) Anti-Slavery ½ penny token, slave in chains, fine	.50
Spain, 2 reals of Ferdinand and Isabella, very good, (1492)	.90
1919 Mexico, gold 2½ pesos (size U. S. gold dollar), v. fine	1.35
1919 Mexico, gold 2 pesos (80 cents U. S. gold), fine	1.15
1846 Mexico, gold peso (size U. S. gold dollar), fine	1.50
(1870) Japan, gold dollar, fine	2.25
1926 Sesqui-Centennial \$2.50 gold, view of Independence Hall, unc.	4.25
U. S. \$2.50 gold, early type dated 1834-38, fine	3.50
France, 1854, gold 5 francs or dollar of Napoleon III., small, thin, fine	1.75
England, 1603-25 silver 6 pence of Jas. I. with bust, dated	.50
England, 1804, Bank of England dollar, fine	1.75
Confederate \$500.00 coupon bond, fine	.90
Set 3c, 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c U. S. fractional currency, used but fine	
\$2.10, new and crisp	2.85
15c U. S. fractional currency, used but fine	.85

SELLING LISTS FREE. REGISTRY OR INSURANCE EXTRA.

St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co.

408 Olive Street.

St. Louis, Mo.

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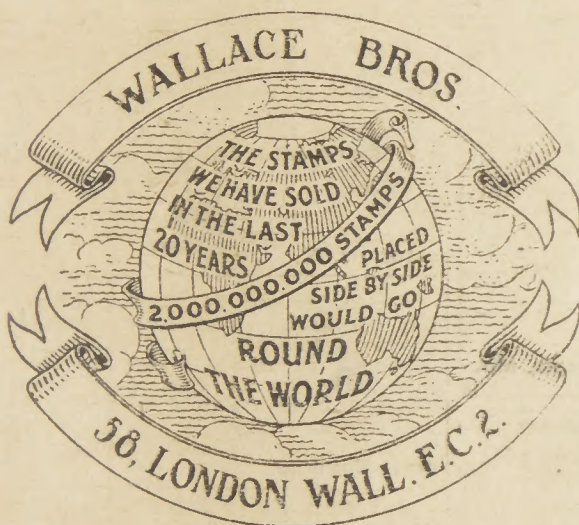
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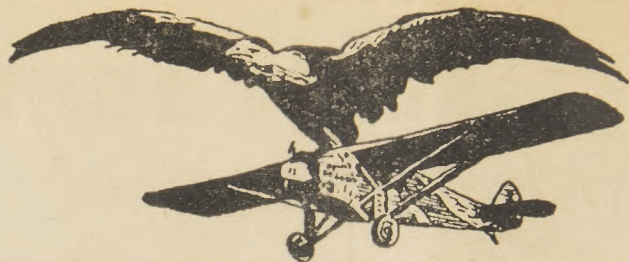
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LONDON, ENGLAND

Lindbergh Data



Colonel Lindbergh recently completed his "Good Will" flying tour of the United States, visiting every state in the union.

WHAT CITIES DID HE COVER?

WHEN WAS HE THERE?

WHAT SPECIAL FLIGHTS DID HE MAKE?

WHERE WERE SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS USED?

We have just gotten out a little booklet which contains among other things a special map showing in detail all of the points the "Lone Eagle" visited, when he was there, special flights made and special cancellations used.

The assembling of this data would cost you individually at least \$14.00 to duplicate. We offer it in compact booklet form at only 50c postpaid.

GET YOUR COPY TODAY

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N. J.

AIR MAIL AND FIRST DAY COVERS

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We offer a new idea in approvals far superior to the usual small, picked over selections offered. But, we confine these to **GEN'L COLLECTORS ONLY.**

100 Different Large

new approval books. Each contains 480 diff. stamps; no junk no great rarities; just good stamps, priced **NET**. Discount run high as 70%. If you will select at least \$2 net; send for one.



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We send on approval entire collections in albums for your selection, at a flat discount of 70%. Will contain practically everything, Early U. S., Br., cols., etc. Minimum purchase to be \$10 net.

NOTE: Naturally, substantial references are asked. When in Brooklyn visit our store. Glad to see you.

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885-9 Flatbush Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y.

Stamps, Minerals, Indian Relics. Stamps 50 var. U. S. revenues 50c; 50 diff. U. S. 35c; 20 var. British Col. 5c. Minerals, 15 specimens \$1.00. Arrowheads, 20 good specimens \$1; broken Arrowheads, each 1c. Money refunded on anything sold out. Collectors Supplies, Stamps, Coins, Curios, Minerals, Indian Relics, sea and land Shells, Books, Fossils, antiques, etc.—Earle H. Potter, 95 Hillendale St., Rochester, N. Y.

Write for our 84 page wholesale price list containing over 8,000 offers of Sets, Single Items, per 1, 12, 100, 1,000, Packets, Mixtures of all Countries, British Colonials from 5/- to £50 per 1,000. Rare Stamps, from £5 to £20 each. Collections and Job Lots from £2 to £1,000 postfree from Wallace Bros., 58, London Wall, London, England. E.C. 2

Our New Fixed Price List No. 23 will be issued shortly, and will be sent to collectors upon request and receipt of postage.—**St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co.**, 408 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. Stamp Collector: Send me Minerals, Fossils, Indian Relics and Curios, from your locality for cash or stamps in exchange. "Look 'em up" and make easy stamp money for this winter. Write me.—**W. H. Marchett**, 615 5th St., Hoquiam, Wash.

Want to Buy for cash, U. S. and Foreign Stamps in fine condition. Send description with lowest prices; if price right you get answer.—**C. Winchell**, Box 937, City Hall Sta., New York.

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There is no risk by buying at my sales whatever.

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38 Scott's varieties \$1.00; 25 for 25c; 15 for 10c; 80 for \$10.00. Illustrated catalogue 10c.

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A Monthly Magazine for Collectors of Stamps, Post Cards, Coins and Curios. Official Organ of the Union Souvenir Card Exchange.—The World's Greatest Collectors' club. Established over Twelve Years. Large Foreign Membership.

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Exchange U. S. Only. What have you? Chas. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis.

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Will buy Franked Letters of early Presidents, also other American Officials.—Harry Konwiser, Box 65, Station W, New York.

Buy, Sell, Exchange. Belgium and Belgian Congo. Want old U. S. A. and Colonies.—M. A. Vrougde, Philatelist, Constitutiestraat, Antwerp, Belgium.

Wanted. 50,000 Harding Stamps; 50,000 Huguenot-Wallons (1924) issue; 50,000 Lexington Concord (1924) issue, 1925-27 issue, all values. Send what you have. Prompt payments. Approvals. (send reference) Approvals.—Brooks Stamp Co. 19 Pleasant St., Beverly, Mass.

Good United States stamps, gold and silver coins to exchange for U. S. covers, commoner kinds, over forty years old.—Roscoe B. Martin, Box 234, Forestville, N. Y.

Stop—Let's Swap. What do you have that you don't want—what do you want that you don't have. We trade anything for anything.—S. A. Harrington's Mutual Exchange, Rear 8320 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

Collectors: Have your labels, exchange lists, circulars, notices, form letters, etc., mimeographed. Cheaper than printing and just as neat. Send stamp for samples and my low prices.—M. D. Wand, Manorville, Penn.

Postmaster Provisional Stamps and old Letters stamped of Knoxville, Tenn., 1829 and 1830; Sandy Hill, N. Y., 1835-38; Phila. of 1843; Matagorda, Tex., of 1847; Richmond, Va., of 1849; Gainville, Ala., of 1841; Pensacola, and Key West, Fla., 1822. All very legible, some at late as 1811 and 1814. Also some of Mississippi and Alabama, quite as far back. Old time papers of Chatanooga and Mobile, Ala., of early sixties. For sale by Mamie McComb, 3430 H Ave., North Birmingham, Ala.

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To Get Acquainted Send me one Arrowhead for 50 Stamps, all diff. Broken Arrowheads for 15 stamps, all diff.—Thos. Snyder, 16 Goodyear Ave., Middletown, Conn.

Some Real Good Stamps at ½ to ¼ discount from catalog. Premium to approval applicants.—Robert L. Hoerner, Box 195, Wahoo, Nebraska.

Precancels Wanted up to 5 of each; give Foreign Stamps in exchange, basis Scott 1928.—Escow Bland (A.F.S.) Manspeed Road, Parkstone Dorset, England.

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- 3,000 Assorted Siam, about 10 varieties, condition good excellent value\$7.50
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Of Confederate Stamps, etc. Cash with order at these low prices.

- 5c Green, used on cover\$2.50
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 2c Red, on cover 4.50
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 10c Blue, pair on cover 2.00
 10c Blue, single copy50
 20c Green, off cover, \$3.00; on cover.. 5.00
 20c Green, on cover, patriotic 6.00
 2c Red on cover, patriotic 6.00
 Guaranteed genuine stamp, nice copies. Jeff Davis ballot, original 2.00
 Civil war patriotic Envelopes, 10 diff. unused 1.00
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- Excella pkt., 60 diff. very fine25c
 Bestall pkt. 45 diff., good value20c
 Send want list. All post free.

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Neat appearance. Quality condition. All cancelled postage.

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2 Different German encased stamps only 45c; 3 Different German encased stamps only 60c.

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My famous Packet of plenty varieties at \$1 packet or 3 for \$2. I am giving you real value for your money. There is no trick about my Famous Packet.

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New Idea in U. S. Stamps—Souvenir—Sheet Fractions.

- Expo. Sheet 25 Wh. Plains\$1.00
 Block of 4, and part Title30
 Vertical Strip of 530
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 Two pounds U. S. used, prepaid .. 1.00

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

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500 standard varieties, in fine condition, including such stamps as Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 4d blue; New Zealand, 1st type; New Brunswick, 1860; India, 1st type; and other old Colonial issues. We are also presenting a fine copy of British 1d black of 1840 (the first and finest stamp ever issued) and 1841, 2d blue, to every purchaser of this collection.

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Foreign and Precancels on Approval
cheap. Reference.

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Will exchange for other revenues, stamp for stamp.

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12 Canada 6c

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106	.04	.02
107	.04	.02
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283 Single Air Mail Covers.

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A grand total of 464 separate offerings or 175 more than the big Air Mail List we put out last season. A number of the Pioneers are shown, all Contract Routes are listed complete, (many point to point contract items also priced separately), Lindbergh Day, Radio Show, Air Mail Field Dedication, and Fair Flight Covers are offered and in addition, practically all U. S. First Day Postage Covers are included. In most instances the 1928 American Air Mail Catalogue numbers are given and full particulars of our "Advance Cover Service" are outlined.

This special list, taking three months to prepare for publication, is a combined price guide and reference work that should be on every cover collector's desk. It will save you money on your purchases. Although costing 30c each to print and 8c postage to mail, there's a copy (without charge and postfree) waiting for you. **ASK FOR IT—TODAY.**

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"A business that does not make profit for the buyer of a commodity, as well as for the seller, is not a good business."

My famous packet with plenty varieties sets and parts of sets at \$1 a packet I am giving you real value for your money. Quantity limited so order early.

U. S. Lindbergh Air Mail, new ...15c
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State Branch.

Cresson, Pa.

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We will buy all kinds of precancels if in good condition and pay cash or give credit in buying U. S. or foreign.

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Woodbine, 20

Penn.

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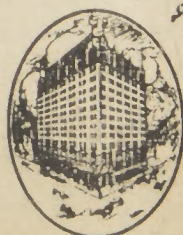
479 Dark Blue fine only 60c; 480 Light Green only \$1.45; 523 Orange, Red and Black fine \$2.15; 524 Deep Green and Black fine \$2.65; 547 Carmine and Black fine only 45c; 572 Deep Blue fine only 40c; 573 Carmine and Dark Blue fine \$1.65; Bargain offer of one of each \$8.85.

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PRESIDENT
KANSAS CITY, MO.

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of the old South
meets the generosity
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3 Revenues, 100 pages	1.50		32 Montserrat, 16 pages30
4 Confederate States, 24 pages	.40		33 Nevis, 16 pages30
United States Possessions			34 St. Christopher, 16 pages30
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VOL. 86

MARCH, 1928

NUMBER 2

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

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Rest all right.

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Saterlee of Detroit spent many thousands of dollars getting best firearm book and most illustrations. Worth twice what he asks for it. See his ad.

Mauck, N. J., who has two illustrated ads, gets out best air catalog.

J. Forrest, Calif., reports getting fine results from his ads in the West.

Ross Shiells, London, gets out neat wholesale list. Pay for every dealer to get one.

Carter, Ky., West ads sure have some pulling power. He can attest with other ads.

Peterson, Wis., old reader likes West best of all collectors' magazines.

Bright & Son, London, issued most handy stamp catalog we have seen.
Look up ad and send dollar for latest stamp prices I know of got out.

F. A. Cox, Ill., reports he has pulled off good many trades by ads in the West. Most of his ads have swamped him with letters.

Spitzer, Va., considers West greatest magazine of its kind in U. S. A.
Says no collector or dealer can afford to be without it. Is mint of information and pleasure to the collector.

ADVERTISING CANCELLATIONS.—By M. Sorensen.

Vancouver, B. C., Canada, in 5 lines: BUY A DOMINION GOVERNMENT ANNUITY—ASK POSTMASTER FOR BOOKLET.

Calgary, Alta., Canada, in 4 lines: ADDRESS YOUR MAIL TO STREET AND NUMBER.

Toronto, Ont., Canada, in 5 lines: COMMUNITY SERVICE CAMPAIGN FOR \$85,000.00, OCT. 23—30, 1927.

Same office, in 3 lines: THE POSTMAN IS YOUR BEST SALESMAN. USE HIM.

Same office, in 3 lines: HELP THE RED CROSS.

Auckland, New Zealand, in 3 lines: PACK CAREFULLY. ADDRESS FULLY. POST EARLY.

There are not many new cancellations to report. In our own country I have seen only one in use toward Christmas, the old admonition, MAIL EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS. Most offices have used it in a 4 line device, while others—Salt Lake City, for instance—used a 3 line device.

Calgary, Alta., Canada, and many other offices, in 4 lines: MAIL YOUR CHRISTMAS PARCELS EARLY.

Same office, and many others, in 3 lines: STAMP OUT TUBERCULOSIS. BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS.

Winnipeg, Man., Canada, a pattern, consisting of 2 blocks. In the first: Illustration of Santa Claus with packages and reading in 2 lines: MAIL EARLY. In second block, in 4 lines: BE SURE YOUR GIFTS ARE OUT IN TIME.

London, England, in 3 lines: MAIL EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS.

Paris, France, in 4 lines: PORTEZ VOTRE COURRIER A LA POSTE QU'IL EST PRET: DEPART EN SERA MIEUX ASSURE.

Montreal, Que., Canada, in English and French, 2 lines each: BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS. TUBERCULOSIS.—ACHETEZ DES TIMBRES DE NOEL.

North Bay, Ont., Canada, in 4 lines: ADVISE CORRESPONDENTS OF YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS.

Prince Rupert, B. C., Canada, in 4 lines: SEND YOUR MONEY BY POST OFFICE MONEY ORDER.

London, England, in 3 lines, surrounded by border: BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR, FEB. 20—MARCH 2. FOR TRAVELLERS.

We like the policy of the Collectors Club of New York in visiting neighboring cities. We have received several interesting newspaper reports on their visit to Springfield, Mass., where the visiting members were entertained at the home of H. C. Hyde. Elliot Perry showed a collection of U. S. locals, H. L. Lindquist displayed his specialized Norways; C. J. Phillips, Liberia; Theodore Steinway, early Great Britain; J. Brace Chittenden, Hungary and Bosnia; Charles Curie, scarce items; Sidney F. Barrett, West Indies; Harry Konwiser, Danish covers; and H. P. Atherton, 2c Black Jacks. That was an evening of stamps. The New York Club plans to visit the Philadelphia Club in December, and Boston in January. The plan is for each visiting member to take one book of stamps with him, and he is allowed ten minutes for display and oratory! This movement is a sign of that friendly spirit prevalent among stamp collectors, and it is nice to see such tangible expression of the spirit come from America's stamp center.—Gossip.



INQUIRIES



It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over a issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

J. E. Gutridge, Calhoun, Mo.: The best thing to do if you want to sell your stamps, is to correspond with some of the stamp dealers, who names and addresses you will find in "West." I think they will give you a fair deal if your stamps have any value. M. S.

Mrs. E. Ray, Brush, Colo.: The German Bible of 1816 and papers from the same period should have some value among fanciers. I suggest that you advertise it in "West." The 3 cent piece you wrote about is worth about 10 cents if in fine condition. M. S.

Mrs. Nevin McCune, Arlington, Nebr.: The value of the coins you mention runs between 15 and 30 cents apiece. The Mexican dollar, if in fine condition, is worth about \$1.00. The coin company you mentioned is reliable. So are other coin dealers advertising in "West." Write them and describe what you have. M. S.

Mrs. Stanley L. Haynes, Mason City, Iowa: The stamps you describe have a value. By all means do not pick the stamps off the old letter. I suggest that you try an ad or write to West advertisers of stamp dealers and collectors. M. S.

Mrs. Jno. H. McComb, Birmingham, Ala.: Try ads in West concerning the old letters. M. S.

Geo. Rice, Georgetown, O.: The publisher of "West" is not a dealer in Indian relics—nor in anything else for that matter. Look through "West" ad columns where you will find names and addresses of Indian relics. Write them. M. S.

M. A. Green, Prescott, Iowa: I have read your notes in last "West," also where you state that Denver mint was the only one coining one cent pieces in 1922. In a bunch of 250 one cent pieces I found three dated 1922, two from Denver and one without any mint mark. If that one was not coined at Philadelphia, how does it come that it bore no mint mark?

Ans.: The seeming disagreement is caused by the difference between a fiscal year and a calendar year. A mint report includes a fiscal year while coins are dated from beginning to end of a calendar year. M. S.

Recently a letter—no, it was only a little scrap of paper—but without name of sender, was received. The note read: "Dear sir please send me a free list of your old first class stamps." It was directed to "Post office at Superior, Nebraska, U. S. A." And thanks to our good mail service was this valuable missive delivered into the right hands, but it is needless to repeat

that the publisher is not dealing in stamps and has no list to send. The postmark shows that the letter was mailed at Rock Hill, S. C. M. S.

Clifford L. Hoefs, Pierce, Neb.: I have in my possession an old civil war gun. It is in superb condition and I would like to dispose of it if possible and at a satisfactory price. It is an old "Robbins & Lawrence U. S." and made in Windsor, Vermont in 1850. It is of the muzzle loading type and one of those that has a large firing hammer on the side. Kindly advise me about what amount I could expect from it and its approximate value as a relic and curio.

Ans.: I am not an expert on civil war guns, but would think that the one in question is not very valuable as the country is still full of them. M. S.

Adam Ripper, Corydon, Iowa: It is a deplorable fact that "somebody is always taking the joy out of life," and I hate to be the one to do it, but "what has to be said, must be said." The token in question was not issued by the U. S. mint, but was issued for propaganda and there are many more than three in existence today. I think the token can be bought for 35-50 cents. M. S.

William T. L. McNeil, Attica, Ind.: In your letter you did not state whether your old picture is a print or a painting; you did not say anything about subject, execution, etc., so it is impossible for me to say what it may be worth—or if it is worth anything at all. Yours may be one of the cases where the frame is worth more than the picture.

Clippings about Lincoln are appreciated by collectors of Lincolniana, and any of them will surely make it worth while for you to get such.

But I don't just grasp what you mean by "original photograph of Lincoln." Lincoln was photographed many times. If you by "original" mean "first one," and it can be proven to be the first one, such a picture would be valuable.

M. S.

W. O. Watson: What is a good stamp album for a boy?

Ans.: Assuming that the question properly should have started with "which," I will say that there are many good albums for boys. I can not recommend any certain one, but you will find albums of United Stamp Co. advertised in "West." The cheapest and best I know of—I use several of them myself—is a loose leaf cover of the kind students use, costing about 25 cents. Anyone can fit leaves in it.

M. S.

I have a large specimen of sandstone spade well formed like the famous flint spades of the Mississippi valley. It is 30 inches long, 11 inches wide and 6 inches at thickest part and weighs 67 pounds. Can anyone tell me what it could have been used for.—H. D. Carter, Mayfield, Ky.

AND LINDBERGH CARRIES ON.

Port-Au-Prince, Haiti.—After luncheon he was given a mahogany paper weight in which was imbedded a piece of metal from the anchor of Columbus' flagship, the Santa Maria. He was then given a collection of rare stamps by the Haitian postal service and the Haitian Philatelic Society.

As he stepped from the plane Lindbergh reached into the cockpit and drew forth a mail bag. He tossed it to the ground as he did when he traveled his mail route. He carried government mail from Santo Domingo to Port-au-Prince and Havana.

Everybody doing it. Doing What? Reading the West Want X Ads of course. Is worth more than price of entire paper if you will read it every issue.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS

Eleven years ago, Mr. August Hippchen established a business of selling stamps just opposite the city hall where he had been located up to last fall, when all tenants had to vacate and he moved one block east, still opposite the city hall, to 105 No. Clark St. At this office you will always find thousands of stamps displayed in sets, and collectors from all parts of the world have enjoyed some very pleasant hours looking over this extensive display. This office handles tons of mixed stamps yearly, besides thousands upon thousands are sold over the counter and by mail.

Mr. Hippchen has taken into business as partners his two daughters, Marie 13, and Helen 12 years. Both of them started collecting at the age of four years and are very familiar with the various peculiarities of stamps, and they are making a thorough study of everything Philatelic. They also have a precancel collection to which they add a few stamps each day.

So interested were they in the collection of postage stamps, that three years ago, they operated their own mail order business under the name of the Marie and Helen Stamp Co., which was quite a success, but due to the death of their mother, it had to be discontinued.

Both girls have had the highest record in History and Geography in every grade they attended in school and also in their present class, and this, naturally, is due to their collecting postage stamps.

They both play the harmonica and piano, and Marie won a class pin for being the best harmonica player. They belong to the Girl Scouts in which they are very active, and they keep themselves in very good trim, as they have a gymnasium both at home and at school. At their present age, they already can typewrite and are very familiar with the general routine of office details and after they leave school they intend to take up a business course, after which they will follow their heart's desire to operate a stamp business.

They have two brothers, 4 and 8 years old who probably will also join in with them later on when they have reached a higher age. Both of the boys have a stamp collection and show a very keen interest in postage stamps, so it seems to run in the family.

Mr. Hippchen is a member of practically all the associations and was elected secretary-treasurer of the Chicago Precancel Stamp Club, and of which Marie and Helen also are members.

They extend a hearty welcome to any and all readers of the West who may happen to be in Chicago or passing through Chicago on any trip and assure them that they would enjoy the visit. See his West ads.

46,969 STAMPS TO COLLECT.

Now is the season when the new stamp catalogues make their appearance. One, "Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World" states that the total number of stamps issued to date (as included in this catalogue) is 46,969. Of this total the largest share (14,164) is credited to the European countries, while Asia has given us 8,922, Africa 10,782, America 7,675, the West Indies 2,956 and Oceania 2,470. A comparison with last year's figures shows that 1,591 new varieties have been added in the past twelve months. The total of 46,969 cannot be regarded as the limit of the varieties that come within the orbit of the philatelist, for this catalogue is compiled on a simplified basis, and does not list minor varieties.

PRECANCEL NOTES.—A. F. Gamber, Valley City, N. Dak.

If you have anything of interest to precancel collectors to get into print, send it to me. If you have any questions relative to the hobby, I'll do my best to answer them. If I can't do it, we'll print the question where all who run may read, and rely on the wide circulation of West to bring the right answer.

Our hobby continues its steady growth. The membership of the Precancel Stamp Society is on the increase. The subscription list of the Precancel Gazette, sponsored by the society, is steadily growing, and that magazine maintains its high standard of excellence. The 1928 edition of the Precancel catalog—1,500 copies—is nearer exhaustion by far than was the 1,200 copy edition of last year, at this time. There is less dissatisfaction with and distrust of the speculative and made to order side of the hobby, due to the catalog's stabilization plan and to the backing given this plan by the society and the Gazette. The Commemorative precancel which was largely to blame for this feeling has lost much of its earlier popularity because of the made to order and speculative nature of many of its items. Altogether the hobby is becoming more and more stabilized. Collectors now have more confidence in buying and in paying good prices when they buy. Auctions are showing remarkable prices for good stamps. Taken all in all, 1928 bids fair to prove our best precancel year yet.

Work on the 1929 Precancel Catalog is progressing rapidly. Of course it is too early to forecast a date for its appearance, but it is safe to say that it will not be delayed. I believe we may look for further price revisions, some up, some down, both needed. West readers wishing to have their precancels listed should send copies of them to Arthur C. Bates, 50 East Grand Ave., Chicago, for that purpose. Mr. Bates is one of three members of the hustling Chicago Precancel Club who have charge of listing all items. They do not put into the catalog any not seen by them. Of course your stamps will be returned to you as soon as they have been listed.

A year ago the Precancel Stamp Society published a very helpful booklet, The ABC of precancels, which is being distributed to those sufficiently interested in the fundamentals of the hobby to send 4 cents for postage. I have a limited number of these booklets which I will send on this one condition.

All precancel collectors enough interested in their hobby to keep abreast of the times should be subscribers to the Precancel Gazette. This is a quarterly magazine, sponsored by the Precancel Stamp Society, the only all-precancel publication in the world. Thirty-two pages (at least) each quarter, all the late news and developments in the hobby. W. B. Hoover, 35 West 33rd St., New York, will enter your subscription on receipt of \$1.

Many collectors or regular postage, of Indian objects and other things, are becoming attracted to the possibilities for fun and for profit inherent in precancels. Once started in it, they wonder why they kept out of it as long as they did, and lament the large number of good precancels which they have passed up or given away. How about you, gentle reader? Have you looked at it in this light? All collecting has a maximum of fun and a minimum of profit. All collecting is an avocation, a sideline, a relaxation from our daily grind. Give our hobby a serious thought or two. If I can be of any assistance in any way in getting you started, do not hesitate to call on me.

The sixth annual convention of the Precancel Stamp Society will be held at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, next August, exact dates not as yet decided

upon. It is to be a three day affair, the largest attendance so far is anticipated, because of the central location of the city. The greatest feature of the meeting will be a non-competitive precancel exhibition. The foremost collectors in all precancel fields will loan the most striking items of their collections for this exhibition, the whole forming the greatest and most comprehensive array of precancels ever gotten together at one time. It's going to be a circus with 100 rings instead of the traditional three. The public is most cordially invited to come and see this wonderful array. Dates given later.

Many collections of old stamps on letters, antiques, books, coins and relics lie unsuspected or forgotten in our old homes, which if sold would realize much for their owners. If you are a fortunate owner of such properties and desire to realize on them to the best advantage, West X ads offer you their services, which cater for a wealthy clientele are recognized as the best in U. S. and they can obtain for many the highest market prices. If therefore you are desirous of selling any old stamps, coins or books we invite your enquiries. Every possible assistance is given.

The editor of a highly esteemed French philatelic magazine wrote: "Collectors, my friends, if I have any advice to give you it is to buy stamps. Buy according to your tastes and your means; but with method and reflection; buy above all of the beautiful and the good; and do not listen to the prophets of evil. The postage stamp is the best of friends; it does not go back on you; and if you have chosen it well and carefully it will, in addition to the pleasure which its company has given you, leave you, if you are obliged to separate from it, a good remembrance by procuring for you a benefit."

We have just received Yukon Airways & Exploration Co. Ltd., airmail stamp. The rather long title is in white letters on a solid blue background beneath which is a fine large monoplane cabin flyer. The stamp is lithograph printed. In each of the lower corners is a large 25 and between it is the word "cents." From the only copy we have on hand we would say it was printed in a strip as it is rouletted top and bottom and imperf at the sides. The company is now serving seven Post Offices in the Home of the Blizzard in Canada near Alaska.—Roessler's Stamp News.

The Fort Worth Stamp Club will meet at 1010½ Main St., office of Dr. F. Merrill, treasurer of Fort Worth, Texas, Stamp Club. Would like to hear from anyone who has any old Stamp papers or magazines prior to 1900 that they wish to dispose of. Doctor is trying to make a library so the club can have a good lot of books for reference.

Ship stamps are being developed into a specialty by Mr. W. M. Appleby, of Cheltenham, who has worked out a list of 360 distinct types, 120 of which are British Colonies. He will be glad to send a copy to any reader writing to him at Clarence Street, Cheltenham.—Harris.

At a recent meeting of the Philatelic Club of Los Angeles, Mr. Wallace, the well known English stamp dealer was the guest of the evening. He gave an entertaining talk on his experiences covering forty years of stamp dealing. Mr. Wallace is making a tour of the world.—Gossip.

WHY WE DON'T SPECIALIZE.

The dealer who specializes is a valuable and honored member of the philatelic organization. We wish him long life and prosperity.

But we could not afford to imitate him.

No sooner does a dealer start to specialize than he becomes the target of all kinds of high prices. For, as Ben Franklin said, "Necessity never made a good bargain."

We ourselves prefer to cruise the world and pick up for our customers only the cream of values. If certain stamps seem too high in price, we cheerfully let them go because we aren't compelled to buy them. We never attempt to stock an all-inclusive variety, or to handle want lists or specialty business.

A dealer recently told a friend of ours that we would be out of business in five years, because our prices did not include a living-margin of profit.

Our prices do include a living margin of profit. But they include something else of far greater importance to our customers. It is the cost reducing principle of the quick turnover.—Harris, Boston.

PRINCE GIVES STAMPS TO ASSIST CHARITY

London.—With six penny stamps sent to her by the Prince of Wales as capital, Miss Caroline F. Baldwin of Wylde Green, near Birmingham, has established a business, the profits of which she sends to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

In a letter to the Prince Miss Baldwin asked for six penny stamps "with which to trade on behalf of this lifeboat society." She promised to render an account periodically.

The Prince forwarded the letter to the headquarters of the institution and later the six stamps were sent from St. James' Palace. She has so far given the society twenty-five dollars, which she made through selling home-made rosettes, doils and stocks.

NOTES ON MALTA STAMPS.

It is stated that the color of the present 1d and 1½ stamps is to be changed to brown and carmine respectively; also that next printings of all stamps from the ¼ to the 6d values will undergo certain alterations, better paper being used for the purpose.—W. R. Gatt, 11 Sda St. Ursola, Valletta, Malta.

STAMP STATISTICS

A summary of the world's stamps as listed in an English catalogue. The total number of stamps included is 46,969. Europe has issued 14,164, Asia 8,922, Africa 10,782, America 7,675, West Indies 2,956 and Oceania 2,470. A comparison with the figures in the previous edition shows that 1,591 stamps were added in the past twelve months.—The Postage Stamp.

NEW AIR STAMP.

A neat little air stamp has just been issued in Norway, the value being 45 ore and the color greenish blue. The design shows an aeroplane in flight, with a silhouette of the castle of Akershus in the background.

Need and want back issues of West of past year. Can extend sub for each issue in good shape.

LINDBERGH STAMP ISSUED IN PANAMA.

A special postage stamp issued by the Republic of Panama, in commemoration of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh's good will flight to Central America, arrived in Hastings and was secured by A. L. Rickel of the Hastings postoffice and added to Mr. Rickel's private collection of stamps.

The stamp is oblong in shape with design and wording in blue-black ink on light green background. An outline map of Panama is shown with Lindbergh's ship, the Spirit of St. Louis, flying over it. An inscription in Spanish carries the meaning, "Homage to Lindbergh." The stamp also bears the name of the country and the stamp denomination, "5 centesimos."

KING MICHAEL'S LIKENESS TO BE ON POSTAGE STAMPS

Little King Michael's likeness will soon appear on Rumanian postage stamps, replacing that of the late King Ferdinand. The portrait shows the six year old sovereign in a simple white shirtwaist of American design with turn-down collar and silk tie.—Morrill.

NORWAY.

"The issuance and use of Postage Due stamps has been discontinued from October 1, 1927. You don't need to be distressed about this as there still will be enough other varieties of Norway to collect.

The number of stamp collectors, especially in America, has increased remarkably since the war, and still is increasing. Whether this growing popularity of the hobby is due to book and press publicity, or to good old-fashioned "philatelic contagion" we don't quite know. But we do know that America is beginning to learn more about the Great Hobby, and to like it.—Harris.

If you collect airmail covers here is a tip, get all the English first flight covers you can afford because most of them advance rapidly. As an example take the London flight, I bought one of the covers for 20c, the other day I sold it at \$5.00 for cover. There are not many others.

Walter Lusk, Liberty, Miss., was recently awarded a prize at the state fair for the best, handsomest and most tasteful collection of any kind. Mr. Lusk entered a mounted collection of domestic and foreign stamps neatly framed, and was given first honors. Congratulations.—McKeel's.

We feel certain it will be a banner Philatelic year. The thousands of price changes in the catalog, 95 per cent of them up, will have a favorable effect, and we look for astonishing changes in the value of hundreds of stamps in the next two or three years.

Some of Latvia's stamps are printed on the backs of unfinished banknotes and others on the reverse side of maps left behind by the retiring German forces after the World War?

Not many know West started December, 1895, and most issues hundred or more pages. Some up to 160 or more. Cost many thousands of dollars building up its large list of many thousands who read the West.

Find collectors greatest clearing house for see most all collectors ads Where can you get more for your money than ad space purchased in the West?

AN AMERICAN FIND.

The days of interesting finds of rare stamps are not over. Considering the intense and world-wide search by dealers and collectors during the past thirty or forty years, it is surprising how many curious and unsuspected survivals of early stamps have turned up in recent times. The latest surprise packet, found in a small town in the United States, consists of a portion of an envelope on which are two record groups of the first 10 cents black stamps of the United States 1847 issue. The 10 cents black, with portrait of Washington, is in some respects comparable to England's first penny black stamp, but it is much rarer, and while the first stamp is known in many collections in blocks of fair size, blocks of the American stamp are of the greatest rarity.

The largest groups hitherto known of the 10 cents 1847, are an unused block of six, and two used strips of six, all of which are in the collection of Mr. Henry C. Gibson, of Jenkintown, Pa. Apart from these the only other blocks known are one unused block of four and two used blocks of four.

The new discovery found amongst old letters which had not been touched for nearly eighty years consists of a block of fourteen and a strip of ten, all used on one packet. They are still on a large piece of the cover or envelope, which had been wrapped round other letters, but fortunately in such a manner as to leave the stamps in good condition. The block of fourteen comprises the full top row of a sheet, with sheet margins at the top, and the first four stamps of the second row. The strip of ten, affixed so as to convey the impression, at first glance, that the twenty-four stamps are in one block, is a full strip across the sheet with sheet margins at each side. The stamps are lightly pen-cancelled, and there is a part of a red grid postmark showing, but the portion of the cover remaining shows no address and gives no clue to the town of posting.

If these blocks come on the open market in America they will doubtless create a new record in prices for the early United States stamps. An average copy of the 10 cent black stamp fetches about \$25, but a used block of four would be worth about \$1,750.—Postage Stamp.

NEWS FROM THE ETERNAL CITY.

Dr. Emilio Diena of Rome says that the reduction of inland postage rates in Italy is the reason for the issue of a new denomination, 50 centesimi, in the Volta commemorative series, and of two new denominations 1.75 lire for registered letters and 2.55 lire for insured letters. To the same circumstance we have two surcharged Aerial Post stamps 50 on 60c gay and 80c on 1 lira blue (the latter will be on sale in a few days).

The 25c King's head turned to left, printed in green was prepared for issue some time ago; but it was found that it might be confused with the 20c of the same design and color. Therefore its issue was deferred; later the 20c was printed in purple and so the 25c profile type printed in green made its appearance, but the 25c floreate type has not been withdrawn.—Postage Stamp.

REVISED

Everybody knows that stamp collecting is the greatest diversion in the world. Any mind that travels along one road is bound to wear out. If we were to revise the axiom we would make it "All work and no play makes jack." And with jack you can buy lots of stamps.—Roessler's.

A PARABLE FOR STAMP DEALERS WITH A MORAL.

Once upon a time a husky young advertising man called at the office of a large stamp firm. The keeper of the gate informed him that the very important proprietor personally attended to turning down aspiring advertising men, but he was too busy that morning. Not at all discouraged, because he held his job by keeping up a stout heart, the young man was Johnny-on-the-spot the following day. Again the very important proprietor was too busy, and the next day he was likewise. But on the tenth day, having enjoyed a large luncheon, and feeling extremely fit, the important proprietor admitted the ad man to his presence and told him to tell his story. With this strange-hold-on opportunity, the husky young advertising man got exceedingly busy. At the very end, the dealer said: "Young man, your line of talk sounds good to me. You may put me down for half-page for one issue." At this the young man reached for his documentary evidence and produced a note-book with dates and places. "Mr. Dealer," he insinuated, "I have called to see you just ten times before getting this interview. How do you expect your ad to get business with one insertion?" Whereat the very important dealer saw the point and filled out a contract for a whole year.

Moral—The middle name of every good advertiser is Persistence.—Harris' Philatelic Magazine.

The Maidstone, England, Philatelic Society held a special juniors' night when there was a record attendance of 102. Representatives were present from most of the schools in the district, and the evening was conducted by junior members. Cabel Pipe, of the Maidstone grammar school, presided. A lantern lecture entitled "So This is Stamp Collecting," was given by Mr. Fred J. Melville, president of the Junior Philatelic society and the author of numerous books of philately. Stamp collecting, Mr. Melville said, was a game that was worth playing well, and when they became collectors they would never be at a loss for anything to do. The first adhesive stamp was issued in Great Britain in 1840, but now there were some 50,000 different kinds to collect from. The reason for having portraits on most stamps was to prevent forgery, as the alteration of a line would change the whole expression of a stamp and render detection easy. He finally urged his listeners not to pay too much attention to the money side of collecting.

The prizes won in the recent competitions were presented during the evening. Competitors were provided with stamps of Great Britain, Switzerland, Australia, Belgian Congo, New South Wales and New Zealand had to write up from them. Prizes were awarded for neatness, conciseness and originality. W. G. Langley secured the first prize in the class for those of 16 to 19 years of age, and T. C. George secured the prize for the classes under 16.—Postage Stamp.

Be a good idea in U. S. Like to hear other plans and ways to help philately.

The increase in the German inland postage rates necessitates the introduction of a new stamp value—at 8pfg. This will bear a portrait of Beethoven, whose head will also appear on a new issue of 20pfg. stamps. The 8pfg. stamp will be dark green, and in order to avoid confusion with the current 5pfg. stamp, bearing the head of Schiller, future issues of the latter will be several shades lighter in tint.

CELEBRITIES COLLECT STAMPS.

King George, Sir Barry Jackson, John Drinkwater, Ellis Parker Butler, Suzanne Lenglen, Sven Hedin, Maj. Powell Cotton, Adolph Menjou, Pauline Frederick, Montagu Norman, Sir Nicholas Waterhouse, Sir Alan Cobham and there are others.

Ever since King George came to the throne stamp collecting has been growing in popularity, so that today it is easily one of the most fashionable of collecting pursuits. Many people prominent in the public eye are enthusiastic stamp lovers. According to a trustworthy rumor that is going the rounds just now, Sir Barry Jackson, the eminent theatrical producer, has presented his stamp album to Mr. John Drinkwater, the dramatist, who in his leisure hours is an ardent philatelist and the proud owner of an extensive collection. Appropriately enough, the creator of "Abraham Lincoln" has a strong partiality for the scarce and beautiful early postage stamps of the United States.

The popular American short story writer, Ellis Parker Butler, is another philatelic fan.

A recent convert to stamp collecting is the tennis champion, Suzanne Lenglen, who has already spent considerable sums with one of the largest Parisian firms. At least two county cricketers are also philatelists, viz., G. B. Barrington and S. Fenley. In another branch of sport, Claude Falkiner, the billiards expert, has been collecting for many years. Sven Hedin, the explorer, and Major Powell Cotton, the big game hunter, are both keen enthusiasts.

The many admirers of Adolphe Menjou on the screen will be interested to learn that his favorite hobby is philately, whilst Pauline Frederick is another film "star" with interests in that direction. The Dolly Sisters are getting together quite a valuable stamp collection over which they are tremendously keen.

Among city men stamp collecting is held in high esteem both as a pastime and as an investment. The governor of the Bank of England (Mr. Montague Norman) takes a more than passing interest in the hobby. The new Lord Swaythling, of the banking firm of Samuel Montague & Co., has been an ardent philatelist ever since he was at Cambridge. He specializes in stamps of the British Empire and War issues. Another banker philatelist of distinction is Mr. Louis Meinertzhagen, who is an authority on French issues. Sir Nicholas Waterhouse, K.B.E., of the firm of Price, Waterhouse & Co., is the owner of a remarkably fine collection of the United States.

Londoners may be surprised to know that the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Rear Admirable Royds) and the chief of the London Salvage Corps (Colonel Fox) spend their spare time seeking new specimens for their stamp collections, or that Mark Hambourg finds in stamps a diversion from music and Sir Alan Cobham from flying.—Armstrong in Bazar.

STAMP PICTURES OF FRANCE.

A number of new stamps are to be issued in Paris to replace the present 2, 3, 5, 10 and 20 franc issues. These will be of the large size, adopted for all French stamps of higher values, and will represent different views of France. The designs chosen are Rheims Cathedral, the picturesque port of La Rochelle, the Arc de Triomphe, the Mont St. Michel, and the famous Roman bridge, with its triple tier of arches over the Gard.

SPRINGFIELD (ILL.) ORGANIZES.

Nine Springfield, Ill., men got together in October and organized the Lincoln's Home Philatelic Society, believed to be the first stamp collectors' organization in the city's history. Stamps already collected by the men are given an aggregate philatelic value of more than \$75,000.

The members are : Dr. Homer P. Macnamara, president; Raymond Bahr, 1213 East Jefferson street, vice president; William A. Steiger, 1101 Converse Avenue, secretary; Carl Rauth, 506 North Sixth street, treasurer; Richard Linney, 1124 South Fourth street; Melvin D. Spencer, 125 North Lewis street; Rev. Max J. Philipp, chaplain of St. John's sanitarium; Lew W. Swett, 206 East Adams street, and Arthur A. Kalb, 301 Adelia street.

The committee named to draw up by-laws is composed of Mr. Swett, Father Philipp, Mr. Kalb and Dr. Macnamara, ex-officio member. Organization of city stamp collectors has been talked considerably, but finally Dr. Macnamara called the group together in his office in the Illinois National bank building October 1 and the organization was effected. By unanimous vote the doctor was elected president.

The society will meet the first Monday evening of each month and it is expected soon to have distinguished out of town philatelists here to bring with them noted collections. The organization is limited to adult stamp collectors, but it is planned to form a junior organization soon.

Father Philipp has been collecting stamps for 35 years. Mr. Steiger has an unusually good collection of air mail stamps as also has Mr. Bahr.

Postmaster William H. Conkling probably has the most valuable single stamp in Springfield, on one of the three letters carried across the ocean by Col. Charles A. Lindbergh on his solo flight and mailed in Paris.—State Register.

Mr. Max Golding, Chicago, has shown us a first flight from Brunswick, to the romance Brocken, the highest mountain in the Harz range, dated 9-10-27, with the rubber-stamped inscription, "Mit Luftpost Beforderd—Post-agentur Brocken," and the cachet, "Mit Luftpost—Par Avion."—Kekeels.

The "semi-final edition" of the Prospectus of the International Philatelic Exhibition at Durban, July 2nd to 12th, 1928, under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of Natal, in co-operation with seven other African societies gives an indication of the importance of the great enterprise and the thoroughness of the plans under way to ensure its success. The Patron-in-Chief is H. M., King George V, and in the imposing list of patrons, we find among other influential names, that of Francis H. Styles, Esq., Consul for U. S. of America. There will be a post office at the exhibition where a special stamp will be used.—Mekeels.

\$260 FOR A STAMP AT LONDON AUCTION.

A 4c blue "Lady McLeod" with large margins and of brilliant color, lightly pen-cancelled on complete letter, was sold for \$260. These stamps were issued as prepayment of the carriage of letters between Port of Spain and Fernando (Trinidad) in April 1847 by the owner of the steamer Lady McLeod.

A complete reconstructed sheet of picked copies of the Victoria 2d of 1852, Queen on Throne issue, including thirteen pairs realized \$265.

The British Guiana issues also received attention, a 1c vermillion of 1853 realizing \$120, and a 4c deep blue of 1853-60 the sum of \$135.

THE STAMPS OF THE DANISH WEST INDIES

The islands formerly known as the Danish West Indies are three, namely, Santa Cruz, Santa Thomas, and Santa Jean, and lie about sixty-five miles southeast of Porto Rico. Santa Thomas and Santa Jean are within a few miles of one another, while Santa Cruz is about forty miles due south, and is half as large again as the other two together. With a population somewhat in excess of 30,000 on an area of 223 square miles, the territory can hardly be said to be important. Santa Cruz, or Saint Croix, was discovered by Columbus on his second voyage, and it ultimately came into the possession of Denmark, by purchase from France in 1733. In common with many other West Indian islands, they suffered from the decline in the cane-sugar industry, and years ago Denmark was quite ready to get rid of them; eventually they were sold to the United States of America in 1916 since which time U. S. stamps have been used.

The stamps have been much neglected by collectors and it is curious that it should be so. They are free from the stigma of speculativeness; there were no unnecessary high values; the few provisionals were the outcome of real necessity; and no more new issues are possible. For the specialist and the limited specialist there are interesting features; most of the stamps are still catalogued below \$1.00 and about \$25.00 will cover the rarest one.

The English catalogues differ a good deal in their estimate of values which have naturally increased a good deal since the Islands were sold but prices in our view are still no criterion of rarity. When we add that the numbers printed were not high, and that at about the end of 1906 all the remainders were burnt, it will be seen how desirable these stamps really are. The early stamps were available only to frank letters to Denmark, beyond that United States labels being used.

The first stamp was issued in 1855 being similar in design to the then current Danish one, except that the face value was expressed as 3 cents. It was printed in deep carmine on yellowish paper with a network of buff, sometimes described as gray, wavy lines close together over the whole surface (oftentimes very indistinct), watermarked a crown and imperforate. We do not ourselves attach much importance to variations in gum, and in the case of this stamp the distinction noted in the catalogues between deep brown gum and ordinary gum seems to be of no importance at all.

It arose in this way. In 1855 a consignment of stamps was sent by the Danish government to S. Thomas; on their way the stamps were affected by the damp atmosphere of the ship's hold and stuck together. On arrival in the island, therefore, the sheets were unstuck and then sent to be regummed locally at S. Croix. On part went to a chemist called Beuzon, who used a poor gum which in process of time has gone brown, while the remainder went to a rival named Ruse, and were treated with pure gum arabic. In mint state the latter variety is probably rarer than the one with discolored gum. The imperforate stamp was put on sale in November, 1855, and remained unchanged until 1867, when the color was altered to rose, and the paper to plain white, but watermarked as before, and it so continued until January 1872 when it was withdrawn. From first to last 500,000 copies of the 3 cents imperforate were printed. The 3 cent rose is known to have been rouletted in 1871 but there is no room for doubt that this was not done officially. High prices are demanded for this variety, but our readers would do well to bear in mind that it is not official.

The same design did duty for the new issue which commenced in January 1872, the only difference being that the stamp was perforate $12\frac{1}{2}$. 250,000 were printed, and they remained in use until September, 1873. A second value in the meantime had been added in January 1873 namely, 4c blue; the design and perforation were the same as the 3c and 250,000 copies were done. Inasmuch as this value also was withdrawn in September, 1873, it follows that it is now priced higher than its fellow. There were no remainders of these two stamps in 1906, when the destruction of the other remainders took place, and we must assume, therefore, either that all that were left in 1873 were destroyed before 1906 or were sold off to the public which is unlikely. Catalogue prices show a steady rise in value, which leads us to the conclusion that the true explanation is that any remainders must have been destroyed at or soon after the time of withdrawal. A variety of the 4c without perforation is very rare.

(To be continued.)

Circular by Walter B. Arno. "Hobbies" are stabilizers. They perform the same office as a governor on a steam engine. They balance your life. They make it worth while. They add to its interest. If you are without a hobby you are a drifter. Like driftwood you are carried along in the whirlpools of life stream. A drifter is an aimless wanderer. He cannot see anything ahead. Consequently he slumps. Nothing interests him. Everyday is the same old thing. A dull, deadly routine that promises nothing and means nothing. A man without a hobby is a lost soul. Therefore get a hobby—if you haven't already got one. A hobby is something about which you can grow enthusiastic. It consists of activities that arouse your deepest interest. And whatever it may be, do not acquire the idea that it is a waste of time. When you are interested you are always learning—broadening your intellect, your soul. Therefore if you have not a hobby get one. Devote a large part of your time to it. Your life will then be filled with interest, every effort will represent a developing force that will finally bring you unusual abilities. It is hobbies that make the difference between the ordinary individual and the genius.

We have been shown a Pony Express cover bearing a three-cent of 1857 adhesive, the property of Mr. E. L. Stuart, Chicago, that has the early oval type of the Central Overland and Pike's Peak Express Company, May 29 (1860), Denver City, K. T., and the St. Joseph postmark over the adhesive stamp dated, St. Joseph, Mo., June 7, 1860. The destination of the cover was a point in Wisconsin. This date antedates that given in the remarkable article, "Handstamped Franks Used as Cancellations on Pony Express Letters, 1860 to 1861; and the Pony Express Stamps and Their Use," by Mr. H. C. Needham and Dr. V. M. Berthold, in the Collectors Club Philatelist for October 4, 1860. This date is fifty-six days after that of the inception of the Pony Express.—Mekeels.

It is predicted that British collectors will carry off most of the prizes at the Philatelic Exhibition which is to be held at Luxemburg. Before the war the best collection in the world belonged to an Austrian who lived in Paris. It was confiscated when the war broke out and sold at auction after the war was over, fetching an enormous sum.

THE NEGLECT OF YOUTH.

Considering that at least ninety per cent of stamp collectors first take up with their hobby during their school days, it is astonishing how little is done to assist the juvenile in any way. Nearly everybody at some time or other has had the heartbreaking experience of going through some youngster's collection—heartbreaking, not because of the quality of the stamps (that is of little or no importance), but because of their condition, the way in which they were mounted, the lack of arrangement, and the hundred and one other things which go to make a collection, even of common stamps, one which will encourage youth to persevere, and one in which he can take a legitimate pride.

But how many have taken active steps to help the owner of such a collection? I would that I could write that "their name is legion;" unfortunately, the reverse is the case. Literally thousands of recruits must have been lost to philately by this lack of interest on the part of the adult and the experienced collector. These embryo philatelists have collected for a time, and then their enthusiasm has gradually waned to vanishing point, when all that was required to convert them into strong adherents to the cause was the assistance of someone capable of helping them with kindly advice and constructive criticism.

Worse than this, thousands have been lost to philately by thoughtless and scathing judgments passed upon beginners' efforts by "superior" collectors, who have wished to impress youth with their superiority, and who, in doing so, have given birth to discontent instead of ambition. Scorn and derision have never yet encouraged any collector, least of all one who is at a hyper-sensitive and most impressionable age.

"Masterly Inactivity."

If private individuals have been at fault in their treatment of the budding philatelist, however, no less blameworthy are those incorporate bodies the societies and the press. For the most part, perhaps, theirs are sins of omission rather than commission, but they are none the better for that. Their part has consisted chiefly of that quality which a cabinet minister once called "masterly inactivity." Speaking generally, they have done, and are doing, little or nothing for the juvenile; they just ignore him, and treat him as a being of no significance. They forget that in this, as in other walks of life, the child is father to the man, and that an early sown seed thrives or dies according to the care and nourishment that it receives.

Let us take the societies first. There are, in London, four large societies or clubs, as opposed to the smaller suburban circles; they are the Royal, the City of London, the London Stamp Club and the J. P. S. So far as I am aware, only one of these—the last named—makes special provision for the junior. He may be welcome at any of the others, but they never cater to him.—Stamp Collecting.

You will boost the paper and help to make it better if you, too, will mention the paper whenever possible. The more dealers you write stating that you saw their ad the more advertising we will receive and, likewise, the larger and better paper we can produce. Get two subscriptions, get your own free.

No hobby brings us more content,

Than that in philatelic studies spent.—Pomfret paraphrased.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S NEW STAMPS.

The new issue of stamps on sale January 3, 1928. The series is a very attractive one and consists of thirteen stamps, each of different design, and will be called officially, "The Publicity Issue." This will be the first issue of stamps in Newfoundland since 1923 when the present pictorial stamps appeared.

While the new issue is not directly intended as commemorative of the permanent acquisition by Newfoundland of that section of Labrador awarded in the Privy Council judgment last spring, the opportunity has been seized to include in this set two stamps which will advertise to the world the confirmation of the possession of this vast territory.

The stamps are larger in size than the pictorials now in use and smaller than the Caribou issue of 1919, and consequently will be most satisfactory from the standpoint of practical use for which, of course, they are intended. Contrary to general belief, this is not to be a short-lived commemorative set but one designed for permanent use, which means that the stamps will be current for at least a few years.

The stamps have been printed by a London company, who has printed all the postage stamps of this country since 1910. It is generally agreed that the designs of the new issue reflect great credit upon those responsible for their selection.

The new issue will at first be sold only in complete sets, as there are some quantities of the current issue which have yet to be disposed of before the new set will be sold for general use. The designs follow:

One cent—green. Map of Newfoundland and the Labrador peninsula, showing new boundary line between Newfoundland-Labrador and the province of Quebec. Shape, upright. The design clearly shows the comparative size of Newfoundland and its great dependency. The subject has been treated with great effectiveness and it will be generally agreed that the stamp is very attractive. It is interesting to note that on the 12c stamp of the Confederation set recently issued by Canada, the correct boundary definition between Newfoundland-Labrador and Quebec is shown for the first time on a Canadian map.

Two cent—red. S. S. Caribou, with inscription "9 hours to Sydney, N. S." oblong. This stamp advertises the proximity of this country to the American continent.

Three cent—brown. Portraits of majesties the King and Queen, oblong.

Four cent—purple. The Prince of Wales.

Five cent—gray. Express train with inscription, "Express crossing country." oblong.

Six cent—royal purple. Newfoundland hotel, showing view towards the narrows, oblong.

Eight cent—lavender. View of Heart's Content, with inscription "Heart's Content, first Atlantic cable landed, 1866," oblong.

Nine cent—dark green, Cabot tower, upright. Erected four hundred years after the discovery of Newfoundland by John Cabot, the Cabot Tower, by its use as the design of a postage stamp will broadcast to the world the proud claim of Newfoundland to her position as the "Birthplace of the Empire." It has other significance too, being the scene of the reception of the first trans-Atlantic wireless message, in 1901, and later the reception of the first trans-Atlantic wireless telephone message.

Ten cent—dark purple, national war memorial, oblong. This stamp will serve to perpetuate the glorious part played by Newfoundland in the Great War. It has its historical significance, too, since the memorial stands on that very spot which saw the birth of the greatest empire the world has ever known, in August, 1583.

Twelve cent—Maroon, the general post office, St. John's, upright.

Fifteen cent—Blue, Vickers Vimy aeroplane rising from Lester's field on the start of the first successful non-stop trans-Atlantic flight, oblong. The aeroplane is shown just after rising from Lester's field at the commencement of the greatest flight in the history of aviation.

Twenty cent—gray-black, colonial building, oblong.

Twenty-four cent—sepia, Grand Falls, Newfoundland-Labrador, upright.

The greatest waterfall in the world is shown on this stamp which is possibly one of the most beautiful of many attractive designs that have from time to time added lustre to Newfoundland's reputation for issuing stamps of fine appearance.

Taken as a whole, the new issue is one of which the country may feel proud and should be of interest even to those who are not stamp collectors. Its advertising power is likely to be extremely great and the set has been well named, "Publicity Issue."—Sent by Willis.

A FINE SPORT.

Mr. Chas. C. A. Fritz, Staunton, Illinois, sent in a copy of the Dealers' Bulletin of St. Louis, in which an illustrated article appeared under the head: "Stamp Collecting a 'Fine Sport'." The story begins with the homely little preachment that it was unkind to denominate stamp collecting as "philately" because the second word conjures up technicalities and dry-as-dust details while "stamp collecting" gives a rein to the imagination. Then our old friend, Henry A. Diamant of St. Louis is given a fling in his personal and his philatelic aspects. Mr. Diamant's stamp zeal is known and his work of proclaiming the merits of the pursuit pursued for years has not been unrewarded. For more than 50 years, stamps have claimed Diamant as their own and the following personal revelation of the man is interesting:

"He went to school and studied law in a law office, then he shifted suddenly and became an actor. For fourteen years he followed the stage as a career. From the 50-cent-an-evening parts as one in the mob scenes, with the extra duties of a sort of glorified janitor and property man, he became an actor of some reputation under the name of Martin Hayden. He was in the Charles Frohman company and appeared in productions by other well known producers. Later he became a producer in his own right. He went to London and while there supervised the first showing of motion pictures at the Olympia, where he was a director."—Mekeels.

FORTUNE IN SACK

Many fortunes have been made out of stamp collecting. Here is a story of one of them. More than fifty years ago a sailor, having won a sack full of three-cornered Capes as a prize in a Capetown lottery, sold his sack to a Plymouth chemist for a five-pound note. His collection, including "errors" and "woodblocks," which would now be worth several thousand pounds, constituted the original stock-in-trade of what is now probably the most prosperous philatelic business in the world.

NEARLY TWO SCORE PRESIDENTS PICTURED ON STAMPS

Only sixteen Presidents of the United States have been honored by the use of their portraits on postage stamps, while nineteen other persons prominent in American history have had that distinction. Included in the latter group are three women.

The women were Martha Washington, Queen Isabella of Spain, and Pocahontas, the Indian princess.

Washington and Jefferson of the presidents, and Franklin, father of the postoffice, have been honored in every regular series of stamps from the beginning, as has Lincoln been since his death. The other presidents pictured on various issues are Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Taylor, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley, Roosevelt, Harding and Wilson. Memorial stamps also have been issued for Lincoln on his 100th birthday anniversary in 1909, for Harding shortly after his death and for John Ericsson, the inventor, on the occasion of the unveiling of a statue to him at Washington in 1926.

The other men whose portraits have been selected for stamp issues are, besides Franklin, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, Winfield Scott, Alexander Hamilton, O. H. Perry, Edwin M. Stanton, William T. Sherman, John Marshall, David D. Faragut, Robert B. Livingston, William H. Seward, Nathan Hale, Captain John Smith, Christopher Columbus and Vasco Balboa.

There have been a dozen distinct series of regular postage stamps, with additions to each after their issue. There also have been seventeen commemorative issues, not counting the Philadelphia centennial stamped envelopes. Those envelopes were almost the first to bear a stamp designed to commemorate an historic occasion. Adhesive stamp commemorative issues include the Columbian trans-Mississippi, Pan-American, Louisiana Purchase, Jamestown, Alaska-Yukon-Pacific, Hudson-Fulton, Panama-Pacific, Victory, Pilgrim tercentenary, Huguenot-Walloon, Lexington-Concord, Norse-American, Philadelphia sesquicentennial, Battle of White Plains, Burgoyne campaign, and Vermont sesquicentennial.

A complete description of all United States postage stamps and postal cards issued since July 1, 1847, when the first adhesive stamps authorized by congress were placed on sale at New York, has been published by the post office department.—Sent by Allen.

MOST GET GUIDES TO ARRANGEMENT.

It is as a record of standardized varieties, both major and minor, and as a guide to arrangement, that the catalogue is used most; and the general collector finds it convenient to confine himself to one of them as a general basis on which his collection is compiled or arranged. There are twelve standard catalogue volumes today, each admirable according to its own plan and differing from its fellows in some main point. So often are we asked that impossible question, "Which is the best catalogue?" Which is best depends on what you want it for.—Philatelic Magazine.

TODAY. Now is the time to Send in Your West Renewal. Now. Remember, that The West stops when the subscription is up. Hundreds of renewals are being received each month and in order to be sure that you will not miss an issue of The West you should send in your renewal at once. Best Keep Paid Ahead.

NO DECLINE IN STAMP COLLECTING HOBBY

One would not have been surprised if stamp-collecting as a hobby had been seriously prejudiced by the many new issues which have been made by various nations since the war, not purely for postal purposes, but often as an extra source of revenue, to be drawn from the pockets of stamp-collectors. These new issues, however, have, it is stated, usually been of such great topical or artistic interest that they have actually added to the attractiveness of the hobby.

Among notable recent issues of a special character have been the stamp commemorating the Lindbergh Flight, issued by the United States; the series from Canada is celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of Confederation; the Australian stamp issued for the opening of the new Parliament house at Canberra by the Duke and Duchess of York; the Russian issue in memory of the tenth anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution; and the German stamp with a portrait of President Hindenburg in honor of his eightieth birthday. Transjordan, too, which has hitherto used over-printed stamps of Palestine, has issued a new series, printed in London, with an excellent portrait of the Emir Abdullah.

1,600 New Stamps Past Year.

With the stabilization of European currencies it is no longer necessary to issue temporary stamps to accord with the changes in postal rates due to monetary fluctuations. The number of new stamps has consequently decreased in recent years. During the past twelve months the decline has been about twenty-five per cent in comparison with the figures for the previous year, the annual output being now in the neighborhood of sixteen hundred, whereas five years ago it was about three thousand. The total number of different kinds of stamps issued since the first British "penny black" in 1840 is estimated at about fifty thousand.

The number of countries which join the ranks of stamp-issuing states each year is very small. Recent years have added only Northern Mongolia, Algeria, Italian Jubaland and Northern and Southern Rhodesia. The hobby is therefore not really in any danger from a plethora of new stamps; and each year, in fact, shows a very large increase in the number of new collectors. For the older stamps the demand on both sides of the Atlantic increases appreciably from year to year, and remarkably high prices are being obtained for rare specimens.

Coming Issues.

Of forthcoming issues the most interesting will be the Belgian series for the Olympic games, with designs symbolic of the various sports; the mourning issue from Latvia, in memory of the late President; a pictorial series from Cuba, celebrating the next Pan-American Congress, the designs including views of tobacco and sugar plantations; and a new series from Russia, where, owing to the frequent forgery of the previous regular issue, an entirely new series is being brought out, showing, as before, but in larger size, the heads of a "Red" soldier, worker, and peasant. All these new issues are expected to be eagerly sought after by the great army of collectors.—London Observer.

THE VALUE OF A STAMP

Many things go into the price of a stamp. The main thing of course is its scarcity. The second thing is the demand for it.

STAMPS OF THE HEJAZ.

Ladies have always been numerically strong in the ranks of stamp collectors, but few have been prominent in advanced philately. The monograph on "The Postal Issues of Hejaz, Jeddah and Nejd," just published by D. Field in a limited edition at a guinea, is by Mrs. D. F. Warin, and is, I believe, the first specialist handbook on a stamp subject written by a woman. She has fulfilled a difficult task with ability, her microscopic eye has produced lists and tables of varieties of which a fellow of a royal society might be proud, and withal she has managed to invest her book with some highly readable accounts of the circumstances of the issues. These stamps, born of the war, and much complicated by the surcharging, as one Arab regime overthrew the other and in time got overthrown, are inscribed in Arabic alone, which does not tend to simplify them for the English collector. In the troublous times after King Husein gave way to Ali, and when the Wahabis under Ibn Saud were pressing upon Ali in Jeddah, a weird odd-job lot of discarded issues were again brought into use with the sign and superscription of Ali's government. But many of these stamps brought back into temporary use were pitiful relics of their original selves, eaten by worms and ants, or half-ruined by getting stuck together in the clammy climate. It was on such derelict bases that the Jeddah provisionals were made, surcharged on presses (whose proprietor only made a small profit) by natives "95 per cent of whom were exceedingly illiterate," and who, swarming round the machine to assist their chief, made confusion worse confounded for the collector who tries to unravel the technical ramifications without such guidance as Mrs. Warin here gives with minute textual and illustrative detail.

--Postage Stamp.

BIG STAMP PRICES.

A splendid collection of the classic issues of New South Wales and New Zealand stamps was sold in London auction rooms, Old Bond street, W. Sixty pounds was paid for a horizontal pair of the 3d yellow green New South Wales 1854, lightly postmarked while \$160 was given for a used pair of 8d orange of 1853.

Of Plate 1 of the various 1850 Sydney Views, a 1d crimson-lake on yellowish paper showing double print realized \$95, and a horizontal pair of the 1d reddish brought \$175. A horizontal pair of the 1d dull carmine on bluish paper from Plate 2 fetched \$199.

An early impression of the 2d lilac-blue sold for \$125. Of Plate 5 a 3d yellow green on bluish to gray wove paper made \$135. The 6d red brown of 1864 of New Zealand showing roulettes clearly on left and right sides realized \$120.

SAN MARINO MEMORIAL

M. Sovrani, vice consul in London for the little republic where he was born, tells me that on September 25 a new set of 50-cent stamps will be issued to commemorate the dedication of a memorial to all the sons of San Marino who fell in the wars of Italian Independence and in the Great War.

The people of San Marino have been stout fighters since the third century. It was in their midst that Garibaldi nearly 80 years ago wrote his order dissolving the Roman legions. He wrote it on a drum which is still preserved in the San Marino museum.

PLATING, MINT COPIES, PAIRS AND BLOCKS—IMPARTING YOUR KNOWLEDGE TO OTHERS.

Perhaps the time will come, later than you think, when you will have to decide whether or not you are going to stick just to mint copies, or just to used copies, or whether you are going to collect either kind, or both kinds. To collect a country completely, one should collect it used, collect it unused—If possible o.g., and we maintain that used blocks of four, and mint blocks of four should be attempted—not with the idea that it will be possible to complete the showing in a life-time, but that there may be a strong representative showing of blocks. Pairs have their place in the early issues, especially in imperfs., strips, or large blocks, or complete mint sheets fit in as a serious collection shapes itself.

Then there may be stamps that lend themselves to plating. Witness what collectors have done with the second issue of Norway, with Victoria, with Great Britain No. 1—and many other a stamp in the plating line. What many hours of research such a task means, it is part of the “later-day” intensive collecting.

There will be others, around the world, who are enjoying the same trading with them, and “swapping” information with them. Serious specialization has three phases: Collecting the literature of the country, the stamps of the country, and collecting the philatelists of the country as your acquaintances.

And as you learn thinks, tell others of them. Perhaps your studies will merit a new treatise on the country. Perhaps you will have some theories that had best be aired in the press so that other collectors may check you on your “hunches” and conclusions.

You may find, too, that some of the standard catalogue makers will come to you for help. It is men like Litt, the Haytian specialist, Kranhold and Konwiser, the Danish experts, Pack, the Victorian student and Chittenden, the master of Austria—that the catalogue makers turn to.

Scientific stamp collecting of a country will lead you into a study of years. It is stamp collecting, plus study. It is science—the real philately.—Gossip.

“STAMPOPEdia.”

“Stampopedia” is the name given to a collection of stamps by their owner, Sigmund I. Rothschild, arranged primarily for the purpose of bringing out the educational value of stamps, as an aid to the Junior Collector. He is traveling from city to city with this collection, giving his talks before civic organizations, high school students, etc. Recently he was in Philadelphia, and showed his collection before the club, where it was greatly appreciated by a large audience. These stamps are not classified according to countries, as the usual collection is, but according to some of the following titles:

Art, Advertising, Air Post, Architecture, Alphabet, Astronomy, Botany, Bogus, Confederates, Charity, Covers (in many types and forms), Color Chart, Counterfeits, Bisepts, Cancellations, Inartistic (called Chamber of Horrors), Ethnology, Error, Engineering, Freaks, First Stamps, Foreign offices, Propaganda, Fish and Reptiles, Cartooning, Hut Tax, Revolutionary Stamps (Stamp Act 1765), History, Liberators, Explorers, First Day Covers, Heraldry, Industries, Inventions, Illustrations, Labels, Languages Locals, Mythology, Music, Autographs, Lost Nations, Bird Life, Presidents, Paper, Printings, Pre-

cancelled, Post Office, Puzzles and Questions, Patriotic Covers, Post Cards, Romance, Religious, Reconstruction, Railway, Royal Collectors, Rarities, Scenery, Ships, Statuary, Types, Maps, Transportation, Water Marks, War, Submarines, Writers, Zoology.

Quoting Mr. Rothschild:

"These are the major pages. There are at least four times as many subdivisions. I will go into the detail of three pages, to give you an idea of how I have covered this subject.

"Let us take, for example, AGRICULTURE.

"The first stamp shown on this page is a 2-cent Trans-Mississippi, showing a farm. Next, I show 'Sowing the Seed,' 'Tilling of the Soil,' 'The Reaping of the Grain,' and the 'Harvesting of the Crop.' These stamps came from France, Kedah, Bavaria and United States in order of my description, and as the Department of Agriculture supervises and advises our farmers on their crops, I next show a stamp from the Department of Agriculture. Then follows my World Farms, which consist of Coffee, Oranges, Corn, Sisal, Rubber, Coconut, Apples, Cotton, Rice, Tea, Tobacco, Copra, Cocoa, Sago, Bananas, Pineapple, Pepper, etc. In explaining this page in detail it is my idea to have the child study his stamps before he places them in the album; to know all about the objects depicted on the stamps. He will then acquire this liberal education that I know exists in Philately.

"Another page is on headed INVENTIONS, and upon this page I have a Marconi Wireless Station, and, on this page, I want to call to your attention that I have tried to show the original models as they were invented.

"My next stamp shows Russia's claim to the Wireless as invented by Popof; the Telegraph comes next; an early railroad train, one of our locals, the original Wright aeroplane on the U. S. Parcel Post; an automobile of 1902, and, of course, Fulton's Steamboat as shown on the Hudson-Fulton stamp.

"The last page that I will describe in detail is one of SPORTS, always of great interest to youth, aside from the fact that it holds interest to the elder, as well. Fencing, Swimming, Ski-ing, Calisthenics, Discus, Throwing, Wrestling, Running, Football, Racing, Skating, Boxing, Hurdling, Fishing, Driving, Surf Riding and Hunting. To house these sports, we have the Stadium as shown on the stamp of Greece, and a gymnasium shown on a recent issue of Salvador.

"In opening my talk to children, I lay great stress upon these words: 'Study your stamps.' Whether Johnny Jones has 300 stamps and Tommy Smith 500 stamps, and whether Tommy Smith considers his collection the best, is of no consequence to me—but the child collecting his stamps and studying them is the one that will derive untold benefits."—P. S. C. Bulletin.

The stamp celebration and exhibition to be held at Cleveland is an event that will attract increasing attention as the time for the culmination draws near. We welcome this evidence of activity on the part of the Cleveland collectors and from our knowledge of their spirit, it is certain that promise will be succeeded by happy reality in due time. The work of preparation is being undertaken with full realization of the magnitude of the results that are anticipated by those who have their shoulders to the wheel and there is no doubt but that the philatelic calendar for the next year will be graced by the occasion. As particulars of progress are released, we shall be glad to transmit them to our readers.—Mekeels.

CIVIL WAR SCENES STEP FROM DENVER, COL., BANK EXHIBITION.

Picketts charge at Gettysburg, the shelling of Fort Sumpter, hot fighting at Antietam, Shiloh and the Wilderness.

Stirring days when the nation rocked with civil strife are called to mind as one leans over the glass-topped cases in the American National bank in which 750 civil war envelopes and postcards are displayed. They are part of the collection of 7,000 owned by Godfrey Schirmer, president of the bank.

Like 750 pages of history, they glitter with names and places known to every schoolboy—Burnside, Lincoln, Beauregard, Jeff Davis.

Most of the envelopes are gaudily engraved. American flags and eagles seemed to be the favorite designs, stamped upon the envelope with no thought of the inconvenience to the postal department. Many of them bear phrases such as "God Save the Union," and "E pluribus unum."

Others are cartooned, crude in outline but crystal clear in the sting of their message.

Only a few in the collection are Confederate envelopes. These, it is evident, were issued in the first flush of secession, before the army of Virginia received its heart-breaking defeats at Cemetery ridge and Little Round Top.

Several are decorated with the Stars and Bars and the initials C. S. A. of the secessionists. One bears the words: "Jeff Davis president; Alex Stephens, vice president."

The fleeting spirit of those changeful days has been caught and preserved in these oblongs of paper.

Apropos of the fateful night in Ford's theater, one envelope is edged in black and bears the simple epitaph: "We mourn a father slain."—Beals.

HINDENBURG STAMPS.

Among the preparations for the celebration of President Hindenburg's eightieth birthday, the Reichpost authorities had distributed 34,000,000 special postage stamps, 500,000 stamp booklets and 10,000,000 postcards bearing a portrait of the veteran in civilian attire, after a painting by the Berlin artist, Eddy Smith. The stamps were printed on new rotary intaglio presses at the State printing works on enamelled paper, with network watermark. The stamps are in sheets of 100 and the booklets contain four 8 pfennig and three 15 pfennig, with the "St. Andrew's Cross" dummy stamp. The stamps are to be sold at a premium over face value, the extra amount to be handed over to the Hindenburg Celebration Committee. The little booklets, containing stamps of the postal value of 77 pfennig, sell at 1.50 mark.

The four adhesives, together with the numbers printed, are: 5pf. green.—15,000,000 in sheet form; 2,000,000 in booklets. 15pf. vermilion.—15,000,000 in sheet form; 1,500,000 in booklets. 25pf. ultramarine.—3,000,000 in sheet form. 50pf. brown.—1,000,000 in sheet form.—Postage Stamp.

CATALOGUES AND MARKET VALUES.

There were never more stamp catalogues sold than at the present day, yet they were never less relied upon as a guide to market values. The stamp market is so active that prices change from week to week, and the catalogue does not now so much make the market price as follow it. Thus it is that the market does not wait for the catalogue anything like so much as formerly, and the only scramble is to buy on catalogue basis the stamps which have risen in market values since it went to press.—Philatelic Magazine.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

"Philately" (Postage Stamp Collecting).—One of the oldest and most popular hobbies known to civilization. Countless collectors spend liberally on postage stamps.

So, West Africa still continues to lead the Colonials at this time, the price of the pound setting VI has been advanced to \$40.00 by Scott.

The largest stamp in the world is the Chinese Special Delivery and the smallest is the 1½d Victorian stamp of 1901.

Patronize our advertisers—they made it possible for this magazine to be.

Stamp collectors are to receive a new favor from the French government in the form of artistically engraved stamps made with special care.

Philately is a matter of give and take—that is why there are so few Scotsmen in our ranks.

The new set of silver coins for England was issued in December.

There is no hobby like stamp collecting for anyone. Many advanced collectors invest their capital rather in good stamp collections instead of any other securities. There must be a reason. To know the mystery of this great hobby start a collection and you will like it.

When quick results are imperative Want X Ads never fail.

We have been shown a ½c stamp which has a curl on the "1" of the fraction. It is very distinct and occurs on the "1's" on both sides.

More than 49,000 stamps are in the world today.

Palestine's new currency bears inscriptions in English, Arabic and Hebrew.

Stamp collectors should get on their toes now. The catalog is out.

Lindbergh only carried three letters on his epochal flight to Paris. These three were addressed to Ambassador Herrick. Aint it a shame for the stamp collectors?

There is quite a thrill in bidding on coins or stamps at an auction sale and wondering if you are going to get the one you have long wanted.

The rarest stamp in the world is a British Guiana stamp of 1856.

The picture of the Prince of Wales on the new postage stamps for Newfoundland, Great Britain's oldest colony, does not show him getting off a horse.

Captain Lindbergh's face will be impressed upon a medal being made by the French mint and will be ready July 15. The face of the coin will show profile of the great flyer and reverse will have Latin inscription.

Word comes to us that both Canadian pictorial sets will be about finished soon. News to us. Thought that they were going to keep in use for about a year. The best denomination is the special delivery.

Norway is to discontinue the use of postage due stamps on October 1; the stocks on hand are to be destroyed. It is rather unusual for a country that has once tried them to abandon the use of postage due stamps.

NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet as a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten divinities, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coins, coinage, currency, medals, etc.. We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operating with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting. M. SORENSON, 1923-C AVE., EAS T, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

The Treasury Department has announced that it will soon begin to issue smaller paper money. Since the standard size bills will not be called in, there will be for years two sizes of bills in circulation. And this is certain to be a nuisance. How much of a nuisance only those who have had experience with European money, French in particular, can fully appreciate. Of course it will not be as bad as that; there will be only two sizes instead of a size for every denomination. But it will be bad enough. No sort of bill fold will hold both sizes conveniently, and the long familiar "roll" will lose its smooth rotundity and look as if rats had been at it.

For many years Americans returning from Europe have been justly proud of the fact that United States paper money is all the same size. The fact has become almost as great a stimulation to patriotism as the Goddess of Liberty. But now for years we shall have to find something else to be proud of.

No gold coins were minted in England last year it was disclosed by the London mint at the "trial of the Pyx," an old custom possibly dating from Saxon days. The Pyx is a safe used for sample coins struck each year where they remain until they are tested for weight and fineness.

The inscription, "E Pluribus Unum" was used on private or state coins from about 1785, before there were United States coins. The government put it on the five-dollar gold piece in 1795, and on other coins within the few years following. The first United States silver piece to bear the motto was the dime in 1798.

The greatest store of gold in the world is the vault of the Assay Office, New York City. There was \$2,297,000,000 there in 1924.

Somebody asked in a paper where our special coins were struck, and the answer was that all such coins were struck at the Philadelphia mint. This answer is not quite correct. The Panama-Pacific commemorative set, issued in 1915, was struck at San Francisco.

Thirteen occurs in various combinations on the quarter dollar, not the Liberty piece, but no one considers it unlucky to possess the coin and there is really no mystery about the thirteen. It happens to be a repetition of the symbolism adopted for the flag and other insignia to represent the thirteen original colonies. The quarter's face shows thirteen stars surrounding the head, the words "quarter dollar" contain thirteen letters and, on the reverse side, there are thirteen stars above the eagle's head. The motto, "E Pluribus

Unum," contains thirteen letters, the lower part of the shield on the eagle's breast has thirteen stripes. In the sheaf held in the eagle's left claw are thirteen arrows, and the olive branch in the other bears as many leaves.

More than 2,000,000 pounds of copper was required by the United States Treasury Department in 1925 to mint \$5,115,675 worth of pennies and nickels.

The first one-cent piece coined in the United States was in 1792.

The silver dollar is said to be almost extinct in the East. One man reports that during his stay in New York he never saw one. Another observes that perhaps it is because you can't wrap them around a roll of plain paper and impress head waiters. There is something substantial and beautiful about them and a cheery sound to their ring. They are not in profusion out here, but now and then you receive them in change.

It is noted that a gold piece of 1846, just dug up, was in good condition. So would it have been if it were from 1846 B. C. Greek coins of the most ancient dates, if gold, are likely to need only cleaning to be perfectly fresh. That is precisely the quality of gold which first gave it its vogue. It is the one untarnishable metal the world has known, through most of its history. The jewels now being dug up at Ur and the Chaldees, from graves that were 1,000 years old before Abraham was born, are also untarnished. The goldsmith's art is immortal.

A firm of building wreckers in Oakland, Calif., has made a handsome profit out of a job of tearing down the old Southern Pacific railway station in that city. Hidden in the walls was found a box containing 400 \$5.00 gold pieces, and under the contract the money went to the wreckers.

Good, hard money is one of the principal of Austrian exports. They mint coins for Greece, Poland and other countries.

Necklaces made of American gold eagles are the crest of fashion among Malay debutantes and matrons.

The word "salary" is derived from the Latin "salarium," belonging to salt. Originally "salt money" was part of the pay of a Roman soldier.

It is not so long ago that copper was used in Sweden as the chief medium of exchange. And at times merchants had to take a wheel-barrow with them when they went to receive payment of considerable sums.

The new Belgian Gold unit, called the belga, is equal in value to about 14 cents in our money, which would give approximately 7.208 belgas to the dollar.

Folks who distrust banks, like the Sydney (Australia) woman who buried \$60,000 in her garden, are apt to choose strange places for their wealth. A few years ago a police court case revealed the fact that a London woman kept her money hidden in her mother's grave in a suburban cemetery.

All \$10,000 notes have been withdrawn from circulation, but perhaps you have noticed that already?

Albania has at last got a national currency, which that little known country never had before. An American writer, just returned from Albania, tells about the many queer customs there. Hitherto all kinds of foreign money circulated in Albania, and as it was all money, it was all considered equally good. Even our own Confederate bills could be met with, passing current at face value. Which only goes to show the truth of the old saying; Where ignorance is bliss, it is folly to be wise.

WHITE PAWNEE VILLAGE ON THE NEMAHA.—By Mark E. Zimmerman.

This Pawnee village site was visited by Captain Clark, July 11, 1804, and Lewis and Clark, 1804, was carved on the sandstone cliff above the mouth of the Nemaha river which they mention in their journal. On this cliff were many Indian signs; on it is the name of one of Major Long's party, which went up the the Missouri river in 1819.

This is the village site which Professor E. E. Blackman believes was a Cherokee town. In a way that is probably true, because the Cherokees are said to be descendants of the Tallegwi of Ohio, whom the Bureau of American Ethnology give the credit for being the original stone cist builders in the Alleghany and Ohio regions. Sequoi was an outstanding personage of Cherokee lineage, and lost his life seeking a lost tribe of his mother's people. His mother's people were Tallegwi stock, who were not red Indians, but were Celtic stock from Britain.

We know that Sequoya invented an alphabet for his people and the Natchez Indians are said to have had an English grammar. We have traced two bands of this Tallegwi stock from Ohio, to where they were residing during historic time. One of those bands were the Skidi Pawnee, the other was the White Pawnee—Arakari.

The Skidi band crossed the Mississippi river, and ascended the Red river, and resided on White river, Arkansas. They were residing in Quivira in 1541 and probably remained there until 1601. From Quivira they ascended the Republican river and finally reached the Loup river in Nebraska where the culture ends.

The other band of Tallegwi stone cist building stock came from the Wabash down to the Cahokia mounds, from there on up through southeastern Missouri, and central Missouri, and on over into the Pawnee province of Harahey where the stone cist culture ends. From where the stone cist culture ends they went on up through the so-called Nebraska loess man field, and on up to South Dakota, and from there on up to near Fort Mandan where their triangular arrow points of the same symbolic form as those used at Cahokia were found in historic Arikari ground houses.

Prof. J. V. Brower claimed that the triangular arrow points and four bladed flint knife were distinctly Quivaran, and we believe that he was correct. The four bladed flint knife was a double triangle, and was a symbol of the mother, through whom the Pawnee traced their descent.

Down in Rice county, Kansas, we examined two circles which were the remains of Skidi-Quivira shrines. They were true circles and exactly in the east side was a door. Exactly in the south side was another door. On the 22nd of March and September the sun rays shown or pierced that circle exactly through the middle from east to west. On the 21st of June the sun rays shown through that east door way and cut across the line made on the 22nd of March, at an angle of twenty-three and one-half degrees. The same process was used by the builders of Stonehenge in Britain. The Skidi and White Panis of Harahey cut their arrowpoints or flesh piercers on the same angle as that made by the sun within the circle.

On a sandstone cliff in Rice county, south of those circles, are two symbols showing this to be true. They are a double circle with an arrow shot through from northeast to southwest.

This culture of mound and circle was first practiced in Britain in 586 B. C. Tea-Tephi or Tamar Tephi was a sister of Zedekiah last of the Hebrew

kings of the lineage of King David. She was a granddaughter of the prophet Jeremiah. She was ordered to heap up high heaps and to set up waymarks along the highway, that it might be known what became of her new cult, which was founded upon the cults of Moses and Solomon. She heaped up the sacred mound Tara in Erin, which is the symbol of the Daughter of Zion. Her way marks were stone circles, and stone box cists. She was the woman who was to compass a man, and was supposed to square everyone within her circle. Stonehenge is her greatest waymark.

Prince Madoc and his brother Ririd or Ree came to America in 1171 A. D. They brought the Tea-Tephi cult with them, and also 12th century Christianity. With those cults and that borrowed from the native red Indian inhabitants we have the stone cists, serpent mound, circles, squares and the truncated pyramid Cahokia mound, which was intended to mark the site of the Daughter of Zion in America.

In 1765 Maurice Griffith and five Shawnee Indians from Virginia, ascended the Missouri river; they were captured by natives and carried to their nearest council house, from this village, they were taken to the one where the king and chief men resided, which was about 15 miles from the first village. Griffith claimed that the people of those two villages were Welshmen, and lived like their 50,000 red Indian subjects.

We contend that the first village where Griffith was taken, was in Doniphan county, Kansas, or in the Pawnee province of Harahey, and that the one where the king lived was on the Nemaha river, and was the one where Prof. Blackman thinks Sequoi's mother's folk used those circular stones with a hole in the center.

OLD NEWSPAPERS ARE IN POSSESSION OF CLARENCE GRIFFIN

Clarence Griffin, Rutherford county historian, of Spindale, N. C., has in his possession three interesting old newspapers. They are Dunlap's American Daily Advertiser, printed May 14, 1793, in Philadelphia; General Advertiser, printed in Philadelphia also, on October 8, 1807; and a copy of The New York Herald, which was issued as an extra at 8:10 a. m., Saturday, April 18, 1865, giving an account of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln the evening before this paper was published. The column rules in this paper are turned upside down in honor of the dead president.

The two Philadelphia papers are heirlooms, being handed down in Mr. Griffin's family from generation to generation. The other paper belonged to Mr. Griffin's grandfather, L. W. Griffin. He brought this paper home with him, when accompanied by a Mr. Baynards and a Mr. Goode, he walked home from Appomatox, Va., after Lee's surrender.

The papers are well preserved.

AN EXPERIMENT IN COIN SALES.

A very interesting experiment by B. A. Seaby, Ltd., catalogues a sale of Greek and Roman coins on the Continental system, and this is the first occasion on which this has been done in England. It will help towards uniformity in the study of old coins and it is hoped that it will be the first of a regular series of Greek and Roman coin sales in this county. In the catalogue, in which nearly every lot is illustrated—there are 690 in all—Messrs. Seaby point out that the freedom from a sale tax in England gives collectors in this country a great advantage over Continental collectors.—Bazar Mart.

ANCIENT FLINTLOCK FOUND IN WILDS OF CABILLO MOUNTAINS,
NEW MEXICO.—By L. A. Cardwell.

Las Cruces, N. M.—George Shultz, government dam keeper at Leasburg near here, is the owner of an antique rifle which came to him in a very unusual manner and which, no doubt, has a very interesting history.

Mr. Shultz, who prides himself on being "a Texan by birth, a cowboy by profession and a New Mexican by choice," with a companion several years ago was up in the rough country of the Cabillo mountains gathering stray cattle when he chanced to see the gun leaning against a boulder, just as though it had been leaned against the rock and the owner had walked away—this too, is probably just what happened something over three-quarters of a century ago.

The old gun is a very interesting specimen, of heavy bore and in splendid state of preservation despite its long exposure to the elements. It measures five feet over all, is a flint lock and has a stock of curly walnut beautifully inlaid with hand hammered brass. Clearly visible on the lock is the name "E. E. Tyron, Philadelphia." Inquiries have revealed that the gun was manufactured between 1821 and 1825.

These dates would lead to the surmise that this old rifle must have come into New Mexico over the Santa Fe trail during the late twenties, at about the period that the Santa Fe trail was opened. Then too, it is not improbable that the old gun might have belonged to trappers. It will be recalled in this connection that trappers under the two Patties trapped this section as early as 1824 and that Ceran St. Vrain brought out two parties in 1826 to catch beaver on the Rio Grande, the Gila and the Colorado rivers. It is hardly probable that the gun came in from Mexican sources.

At the dates when the gun was left in the Cabillo mountains it was indeed a calamity to be unarmed in the region as the Cabillos were then the heart of Apacheland. Could the history of the old rifle from the time it left the makers back in Philadelphia until it was picked up in the Cabillos be written it would no doubt be a thrilling story. The Cabillo mountains border the Jornado del Muerti—the Journey of Death—the most dreaded portion of the ancient Santa Fe-Chihauhuah trail, declared by historians to be the most dangerous place in New Mexico up to about the period of American occupation.

A CANE WITH A HISTORY.

If a cane now owned by Rev. Arthur N. Lindsey of Clinton, Mo., could talk, what a history it could tell the Christian church minister there. The cane recently was given the pastor by Wash Converse, prominent Henry county farmer, who received it from the late William F. Cody, more generally known as Buffalo Bill. This old plainsman carried the cane in the closing years of his colorful career. The walking stick is of heavy and substantial ebony, beautifully hand carved. Buffalo Bill carried this cane with him when his famous "Wild West" show was touring England. The show was visited by the prince of Wales.

COIN OF 1827 FOUND IN HEART OF A BLACK GUM TREE.

Clarksville, Ark.—W. P. Huston, farmer living near this city, recently found a coin dated 1827, imbedded in the heart of a black gum tree he was cutting for wood. The coin was in a small decayed place in the tree and fell out as Huston was splitting the log.

COLLECTS COINS OF ALL NATIONS

Fifteen years ago Howard Miller, living southwest of Elmcreek, Nebr., acquired a California gold dollar and that little gold coin was the foundation of a mighty fine collection of money which Mr. Miller has acquired since.

He is just a private collector of coins, one intensely interested in them and going about it systematically to build up a collection that its owner can be justly proud of. Although they number thousands, Mr. Miller knows his coins well and can speak of them in a language which the layman can understand and appreciate.

A fob, composed of gold coins, is perhaps the first piece of money that a visitor at the Miller home will manifest interest in. It is worth more than passing mention. The fob is composed of four gold pieces, viz., 25 cents, 50 cents, \$1, \$2.50 and \$3. The latter coin is becoming exceedingly rare, the last minting having taken place in 1889. Those specimens existing are practically all in the hands of collectors.

The most valuable gold in the Miller collection is a United States \$4 piece. This money was minted in 1879 and only fifteen were struck off. All are in the hands of collectors or museums and Mr. Miller believes he possesses the only coin of this variety in Nebraska.

His collection of gold coins range in face value from 25 cents to \$20. In size that range from three-eighths of an inch in diameter to more than two inches. Their shapes, including the foreign gold coins, take on some wierd proportions. Octagon, the Japanese oblongs, Chinese oval shapes, square, some milled and some with edges flattened and fluted, and in every hue that gold may be obtained in its natural state are represented. There are gold coins like those of the South African Republic, which are worth more than their actual weight in gold, to say nothing of its collection value.

An unusual gold piece is that of the United States \$5, milled in 1801. The following year these were restamped, the figure "2" being imprinted over the "1" in 1801. These are exceptionally rare.

The Miller collection is not limited to gold coins. By way of extreme contrast, if the visitor is sufficiently interested, he may be shown a Swedish two dollar, the equivalent of two dollars. It is a monstrosity in coins, measuring eight by nine inches, made of copper and with the Swedish crown stamped in the center and corners. It is stated that the money actually represented its value in copper at the date of issue.

Siam's bullet money is another striking contrast of money extremes. The coins, in various sizes, resemble nothing more than a spent bullet, hence their name. Characters, determining their values, are die stamped on the bunks of silver, which also vary in size according to their denomination, the smallest being no larger than a pea.

Beginning at the beginning. The first coin minted in the United States was the Martha Washington half-dime. It is about the size of a ten cent piece of today. It is stated that this coin, produced in 1792, was made from plate which was the private collection of George Washington. Preceding that date the colonists used British money and "promise to pay" notes.

The first dollar was minted in 1794. On one side it depicts what is presumed to be a colonist bust, with long flowing hair. On the reverse side is a somewhat grotesque looking eagle, with spread wings, in flight. Twenty-seven hundred of these dollars were minted and it is estimated that perhaps one hundred still exist.

Mr. Miller possesses one of every issue of half dollar ever coined by the United States government, including those of general circulation and some mint proofs. He also has a collection with special mint marks, which are of particular value to advanced collectors. The most rare of these half dollars, in general circulation, is one dated 1796, a good specimen of which will bring better than \$300.

He also possesses one of every variety and date in pennies ever minted by the country, from 1793 to 1918. It is interesting to note that on the first penny issued the "America" was abbreviated to "Amer." Commemorative issues are all represented in the collection and in many respects this is the most interesting display of the lot.

The foreign branch of the collection is varied, representing every country that ever issued coins, from 600 B. C. to the present date. However these collections are not complete, being only odd pieces issued at varying periods. However they will hold the interest and attention of the visitor for some time.

Mr. Miller owns both varieties of the so-called Bryan dollar, the sixteen for one silver piece. They bear the inscription "776 1-5 grains of silver, equivalent of our gold dollar in value." They were coined in 1896.

The U. S. \$1, issued in 1836, with Liberty seated on one side and a flying eagle on the reverse, with no inscriptions, is another rare piece. This dollar shows twenty-six stars, the number of states at that time. It, together with the "chain" penny, thirteen links in a chain representing as many colonies, will particularly interest the student of history. The latter, as may be surmised, was among the first coins issued by the colonists, in fact the second, following the year after the Martha Washington half-dime made its initial appearance.

Through with the silver and gold there still remains paper money to pore over, including a complete collection of the famed "shin plasters." They were issued in 1861 to 1873, in denominations from 3 cents up to 50 cents. Some are printed on wood pulp, others on plain paper and still others in silver thread paper. The collection is both beautiful and interesting.

It seems needless to say that Mr. Miller enjoys his hobby, which he does, immensely. But by the way of variation, lest he tire of his favorite pursuit, he turns with almost equal interest to china, bric-a-brac and "what have you."

Fortunate is he who can take such a painstaking interest in a worth while hobby and pursue it with such intelligence and doubly fortunate is Mr. Miller, in that his wife shares his pleasures with him. She may not be his equal as a numismatist, but when you talk china and antiques your speak her language.—Kearney Hub.

Pathfinder says: We no longer go to Europe for our antiques. Our connoisseurs, especially the ladies, have discovered wonderful antiques in our own country. The movement has grown so rapidly and the taste has become so popular that the furniture our colonials made and used has become veritable treasures. The old highboys and lowboys of New England are almost beyond price, while the spinnets and spinning wheels, chairs, tables and fire-irons used by our ancestors anywhere in the East are madly sought after. Even the household articles of our grandfathers are snapped up by the greedy hunters. Tourists with any considerable experience know from the signs they see on the roads how half the way-back farmhouses in some sections have become "antique shops."—Pathfinder.

A KANSAS DOCTOR'S COLLECTION OF NAPOLEONANA

Alfred Houghton Clark, 4012 Holmes, Kansas City, knew that his brother, Dr. Arthur W. Clark of Lawrence, Kas., was an admirer of Napoleon Bonaparte. Dr. Clark had a framed letter signed by the great leader in his office. When he wrote the letter Napoleon was first consul, an artillery commander, who became the man of the hour in Paris following the revolution and later was to proclaim himself emperor. The letter, dated "27 Thermidor" (the eleventh month in the calendar of the first French republic), was written by a secretary and recommended a man named Moreau to the minister of finance.

Mr. Clark did not believe his brother's collection of Napoleon mementoes went very far beyond that letter. He knew Dr. Clark read a great deal and had become so familiar with Napoleon's career that he was an admitted authority.

Dr. Clark died July 22 while his brother and family were in Europe. Returning, Mr. Clark investigated the personal effects and was surprised to find an extensive Napoleonana. For thirty years starting in Boston, Dr. Clark had been assembling a scrapbook of Napoleonic items. He had bought, sold and exchanged letters, proclamations, commissions and pictures, pasted these in the big book of 429 pages, and left it—a liberal education of the Little Corporal, his generals and descendants.

There are ten characteristic pictures of Napoleon, and six of Elisa, his eldest sister. Pauline, another sister, the beautiful Princess Borghese, appears in such loveliness that it may easily be understood why the sculptor, Canova, chose her as a model for Venus, a statue which her husband later had removed from public gaze when he learned the model's identity. Caroline, Napoleon's youngest sister, who married Marshal Murat and became queen of Naples, also is represented with pictures and an autograph.

Joseph, a brother, was to increase the value of this scrapbook by a letter he wrote February 1, 1879, asking his banker in Philadelphia to advance \$50 to a friend and charge it to his account. Joseph refused to accede to urgings from Mexico to become emperor of that country. He already had been king twice—of Naples and Spain.

The Baltimore Bonapartes, an aristocratic, proud family, appealed strongly to Dr. Clark and he clipped many magazine articles about them. The family was started by Jerome T., youngest brother of Napoleon, who loved at first sight and married Elizabeth Patterson, a belle of Baltimore. This marriage was annulled by Napoleon.

Elizabeth was the daughter of a Baltimore merchant, William Patterson, who probably descended from Robert Patterson, the original of Sir Walter Scott's "Old Mortality," a character in the book of that name.

A prized item of the collection is a signed letter by Lafayette. Evidently it has been saved from flames. It was addressed to Bushrod Washington, and arranged a social engagement.

Throughout the book Dr. Clarke made notations to explain and identify the engravings, wood cuts and documents. The compilation of this book must have required hours and hours of painstaking effort, yet he also collected about 800 war medals and decorations. Mr. Clark is now engaged in classifying these and mounting them against a black background. They are a burst of color—flashing ribbons and golden and white metals.

One, an English medal struck in 1804, was awarded to the "best shot at ball practice." Another has the picture of Victoria when she was young.

Others refer to Waterloo, Egypt, Syria, Afghanistan (showing elephants trudging up a mountain), total abstinence, Medicine Hat in Northwestern Canada, the Baltic and Sebastopol. Mr. Clark has established that the recipient of a Balaklava medal, whose name is engraved thereon—Corp. W. Greening—was a member of the Light Brigade which made the famous charge.

These medals are but a few on the English board, and equally interesting ones are on the French and German backgrounds. One of the most unusual, perhaps, is that awarded for Arctic discoveries, 1818-1855.

Among Dr. Clark's possessions was found also a portrait. His brother, a portrait painter, believes it is of St. Bartholomew by one of the old Spanish artists, probably a pupil of the Italian, Tintoretto, whose style that of the painting resembles.

Mr. Clark is the possessor of what is believed to be an original George Washington letter, which occasioned wide comment recently when it was announced.—K. C. Star.

Indian craft is obtaining a wide vogue in America, for the decoration of homes and to satisfy a desire in most people to possess some articles of aborigine art.

Navajo rugs are truly the highest type of handiwork made by any primitive or semi-savage race. The American people have, in recent years, awakened to this fact, and an unusual demand has resulted for these rugs, or blankets, as they are often times called. This demand has already caused a scarcity, and it is now difficult to find good rugs in the stocks of curio dealers in the cities or at tourist centers.

This scarcity is being made more acute by the fact that the Indians are learning more remunerative occupations, and the weaving of these rugs is now very nearly all done by the older members of the tribe—those who learned the art when little else in the way of occupation was open to them.

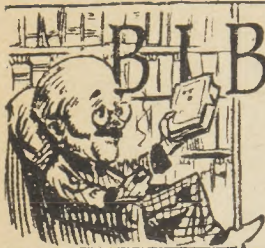
When one considers that a Navajo Rug is absolutely pure wool, wool and warp, and that every strand has been placed by hand; that the rug is reversible, and that, owing to its tight weave, practically indestructible, and that an average rug, costing no more than \$20 or \$30 contains \$15 to \$20 worth of wool counted at market prices, and that its weaving consumed no less than a month of constant work, the price is almost ridiculously low.

FOR A FIRST EDITION, \$4,900 FOR GRAY'S "ELEGY" AT AUCTION.

A copy of the first issue of the first edition of Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Church Yard" has been sold to Charles Sessler for \$4,900 in an auction of books and autographs from the library of Jerome Kern, the composer, at New York.

The book known as the Clawson copy, published in 1751, was described as being in excellent condition. A set of first editions of the three volumes of DeFoe's "Robinson Crusoe" was bought by Mr. Sessler for \$4,200. A rare trial edition of "The Hanging Judge," a drama by Robert Louis Stevenson and Fanny Van De Grift was sold to James F. Drake, Inc., for \$1,200.

Dr. H. A. Davis of A. P. S. fame, has compiled a coin encyclopedia, the publishers of which are The Adair Co., Denver, Colo. It is a mine of information for the coin collector. It is not merely a price list but contains much valuable data and information.



BIBLIOGRAPHY



Edited by Roy Adair, 1715 Champa, Denver, Colo. Under this heading we will answer all inquiries pertaining to books. Questions and answers of interest to subscribers will be published here each issue. Parties having interesting notes kindly send to the above.

Here you may range the world with the magic of a Book; plunge into scenes of remote ages and countries, and cheat expectation and solitude of their weary moments.

The book auction season of 1927-28 is now in full swing with the two largest auction houses open. The Anderson Galleries and the American Art association, the first of November.

Prices for the genuinely scarce books have been high but few sales as yet have contained many really rare items.

One of the highest prices this season was \$10,000 for a rare Kipling item. "The Smith Administration" India 1891 (one of 6 known copies). This price is one of the highest on record ever paid for the work of a living author.

Some Prices From the Fall Sales.

"The King's Henchman" by Edna St. V. Millay—autographed, limited edition on Japan Vellum. \$115.00.

"Sonnets" by Charles Tennyson—London, 1830, autographed, and marginal notes by Samuel Coleridge, the English Poet, \$2,625.00.

"Echoes" by Rudyard Kipling, autographed copy with an unpublished poem in manuscript, \$6,000.00.

"Waverly" by Sir Walter Scott, 3 vols. Edinburgh 1814, with autograph and autograph letter, \$70.00.

"The Newcomes" by Thackeray, original 24 parts in 23, London 1853-55, \$52.50.

"Amelia" by Henry Fielding, 4 vols., London 1752, \$80.00.

Interesting Items From Dealers' Lists.

"The Tragedies of Boccaccio," London 1553, \$200.00.

"Tristram Shandy" by Laurence Sterne, original 9 vols., London 1760-67, autographed in three of the volumes, \$925.00.

"Life of Samuel Johnson," Boswell, London 1791, \$365.00.

"Confessions of an English Opium Eater" by Thomas De Quincy. First edition, London 1822, \$250.00.

"An Essay On Criticism" by Alexander Pope, London 1711, fine copy of the first issue of the first editions, \$300.00.

"Roderick Randem" by Smollett, 2 vols., London 1748, \$190.00.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Six hundred thirty-four silver pennies of the time of Edward the First and Edward the Second formed the subject of a treasure trove inquest at Derby. The coins were unearthed by an excavator on the site of an old Roman station at Little Chester, and the finder put them aside as being of no value. They were declared to be the property of the Crown.

WEAPONS OF MICHIGAN "APE MEN" ON EXHIBIT.

Early residents of Ohio and Michigan, who lived in these states millions of years ago, aeons before recorded history, existed by war and the chase. Evidences of these ancient Americans are to be found in the Book Tower, in the collection of Charles F. Brown, of Toledo.

For almost 40 years Mr. Brown assiduously has been collecting weapons and properties of ancient man in Ohio and Michigan. A most fertile field for this fascinating research has been the Maumee Valley around Toledo, a great settlement of primitive men millions of years ago.

From the ancient weapons found in this district, Mr. Brown concludes that this settlement was visited by primitive men from many parts of the country, because excavations have yielded weapons formed of rock not native to the region, proving that early man went to the spot from places many hundreds of miles away.

In the collection on exhibit there are approximately 4,000 pieces, all found by Mr. Brown. His entire collection contains 8,000 pieces, valued at more than \$60,000.

Mr. Brown's collection is roughly divided into two groups; the pieces that are pre-Columbian, belonging to remote eras before this country was discovered and colonized by Europeans, and the Indian relics of which Mr. Brown has thousands, including spear and arrow heads and other weapons and tools. Besides his excavations in the Maumee Valley, Mr. Brown has unearthed many interesting and valuable relics in Michigan, throughout the Thumb district and around Lansing and Hillsdale.

The earliest relics which Mr. Brown has discovered are, of course, weapons used by primitive man millions of years ago, before the invention of tools. These in the main are flat stones, fitted to the hand and grooved so that the fingers of primitive man could firmly clutch the crude weapon. Other weapons include war clubs, among them an ancient granite club about two feet long and with the handle worn smooth from the fingers that held it millions of years ago.

There are stone knives, ancient mortars and pestles, rubbing tools probably used to sharpen other instruments, crude agricultural implements, altar stones and totem pieces bearing strange carvings, some of which are graphic depictions of animals and men and others which are indecipherable.

Mr. Brown's favorite hunting grounds are river beds and gravel pits, or the "river drifts," where, in prehistoric times, the rivers have changed their courses and left deposits in their beds. The rivers were the only highways used by ancient man and on their banks battles occurred, burial grounds were established and the people lived.

In many of the weapons of primitive man, small holes were drilled, and according to Mr. Brown, these holes were made so that the weapons could be worn around the neck by a thong. Often the weapons were carved with crude effigies. Mr. Brown says that primitive man believed that if he wore such an amulet bearing carvings intended to be portraits of his ancestors that the strength of his forefathers would come to him.

The First National bank will invite the school children of Detroit or anyone interested in this field of archaeology to visit the exhibition.—Sent by Boers.

INDIAN LORE—ANCIENT AND OTHERWISE.—By W. Straley.

According to a report issued by the archaeological office of the Canadian National Museum, Ottawa, the largest petroglyph, or Indian rock carving, has been discovered near Yale, British Columbia. The carving is 250 feet in length and is on the face of a wall of reddish stone, sheltered by an overhanging ledge. Previously the largest known rock carving was located on the west side of a seventy-foot canyon near Bella Coola, British Columbia.

The Hostess concludes an article on "Ceramics An Ancient Art" with this paragraph: "Ceramic art in this country is a new or recently developed one. From the crudest of vessels made by inferior Indian tribes we can trace the romantic story on our shores through the quaint jars of more skillful tribes, particularly the Pueblo of ancient days."

James Dyer, a Choctaw Indian, a member of the Oklahoma legislature from McCurtain county, and vice chairman of house fish and game committee, recently expressed himself thus: "It is an instinct in us Indians to kill only the game we can eat. If that practice is carried out game will never become extinct."

The Chicago Herald is credited with the statement that Supt. D. R. Jones of Siskiyou county, California, has demanded that the state board of education change the picture of "a naked Indian clad only in a torn shirt, which appears in a grammar school text book. The picture bears the title "A Klamath River Indian. Supt. Jones says, "the Indian children in the Klamath river country are in regular attendance in the elementary and high schools. I can assure you from very extensive observation that they do not attend school in their shirt tails."

Many years ago numerous Indians were occupying the woods around Bethlehem, Pa., awaiting the signal to raid the village and massacre the inhabitants. But from the housetop of the Brethrens House according to Moravian history, the church trombone choir, with many a blast and flourish, ushered in the Christmas dawn. The hidden redskins heard the mighty notes of the instruments and thinking it the voice of the Great Spirit fled and thus saved the lives of the people.

A mirror fashioned from a round disk of pyrite, supposed to at one time have been the property of some vain Aztec, was recently found while excavating in the state of Michoacan, Mexico.

Dr. Sylvanus G. Morley in an article in the Forum states: "The original 100 per centers in America were the Maya Indians of Central America. In regions that now for some mysterious reason are overgrown by the jungle the Mayas had built up a complex civilization by about the time of Christ. For the earliest Maya monument now known is believed to date from about 69 A. D. In the first thousand years before Christ, the Mayas were savages somewhere along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Their earliest monuments are crude, but rapidly pass through a succession of refinements until they reach the zenith of Mayan art about 487 A. D., after which a period of decadence sets in. There is no room for foreign origin. The Mayas built up the first strictly American civilization and are strictly 100 per centers.

The Macon (Mo.) Republican reports that an expedition to open fifteen Indian mounds along the Chariton river is being planned by Dr. C. O. West of New Cambria, Macon county. Dr. West has an unusual collection of Indian relics. He believes these unexplored mounds will reveal some in-

teresting objects not covered by his collection. He is now classifying his arrowheads, axes, cooking utensils and various articles the Indians buried with their dead and hopes when the new mounds are opened he will be able to make the distinction between the different tribes that inhabited these parts.

In a letter to the Kansas City (Mo.) Star, Mr. J. E. Finney states that in May, 1886, he interviewed Nekah-Washe-Tunkah (Ambitious Man) regarding the naming of Topeka, Kas., and was informed that the name originated as follows: "The location of Topeka was selected by the Indians as an ideal place to play ball, and each spring, at the proper time, the Indians from the surrounding tribes came there to play ball, so they called it the Play Ball Town or Tah-Pe-Ko, not Topeka as we now pronounce and spell it. The emphasis on the first syllable as it should be spelled, Tah-Pe-Ko."

SOME INTERESTING FINDS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

During the flood waters last summer on or near the Tom Smith farm north of Fairbury was washed out the following interesting specimens: First a cache of forty tan color, flint hoes, 3x6 inches in size. These were buried about eighteen inches deep. Nearby were found one nine-inch, fine, thin, flint dagger with eight very fine perfect, deep notched spears, five to six and one-half inches long. Three banded and two holed slate ornaments. Seven axes ranging in size from five to fourteen and three-fourths pounds, all perfect pieces. South of town four and one-half miles one cache of 101 perfect, thin, snow white, leaf shaped knives, three to four and one-half inches long, all found buried under a tree and exposed by bank washing away. Near this find on the Mart Spence farm his son found a perfect, fine modled, flint dagger, eight and one-half inches long, blade two and three-fourths inches wide, thin; handle rounded and apparently made to fit the hand. This piece slid down the bank where they were loading gravel. All above specimens, including a large bird stone, were procured this past season by Dr. A. W. Pendergast of Fairbury, Ill.

A NEW INDIAN BURIAL GROUND DISCOVERED.

Just three and a half miles south of Dardanelle, Yell county, Arkansas, Unlike the Indians of Carden Bottoms eighteen miles further southeast. These were buried in shallow graves two feet deep, while the ones in Carden Pottoms were four and five feet. Many fine pieces of pottery were broken by the plow. The renters give a fourth of what they find to land owners to get the right to dig. I buy all they dig out. Some of the graves are very rich in pottery and pipes. One grave contained two catlinite stone pipes, one is a platform type with a fish engraved on the top, very rare. This grave also contained two fine effigy head bowls, a nine and one-fourth inch white skinning knife, twenty-eight flints, all in shape of drills but large as a man's finger; these had been used so much the flake marks were worn smooth, they are from three to eight inches in length. One human head effigy bottle was found, many large vases, pots, fine engraved bottles, painted designs; shell beads, celts, war points, one double cup like an hour glass, a few copper beads. Photos of a lot of the fine pieces. This constitutes the pieces so far. All this dug out in December, 1927, near the Arkansas river. One hundred pieces of pottery.

G. E. PILQUIST.

JADE THE ONLY MUSICAL GEM.

While on the subject of jade I must speak of the Bishop collection—the finest collection of jade that exists anywhere in the world—to which I was instrumental in adding, purely as a matter of friendship, about one-third of the thousand items.

This constitutes the most comprehensive and exhaustive and, I think, most beautiful collection of a gem material in existence. Nothing more exquisite than the delicate, translucent bowls and vases and coupes, polished by the slow, ceaseless effort of ancient yellow men, carved by tools as fine as a wasp's sting, traced with legendary story and symbol, suggesting somehow—though these have left no physical traces—the hundred adventures of love, religion, bloodshed and rapine through which they have passed. There is, for example—and this was the piece that first aroused Mr. Bishop's interest in jade and incited him to begin his collection—the famous Hurd vase purchased from Tiffany & Co. in 1878. This vase was obtained in China by Mr. Hurd, a Boston tea merchant, and was part of the loot of the armies of the Anglo-French expedition of 1860, when the forty buildings that comprised the world-famed summer palace of Peking were sacked and the imperial treasures—triumphs of the lapidarian art of many centuries—were dispersed throughout the world.

No finer example of jade ware exists than this imperial vase; a vase in lantern shape in many varying shades of green, carved in foliage and garden scenes, seeming to live and move when one places a lighted candle within.

In addition to all its other mysterious and mystic qualities, jade adds still another—its sonorousness. It is the only musical gem. "Full indeed is the heart of him who beats the musical stone like that," said a passing peasant, hearing Confucius draw mournful music from his instrument of jade. A series of twelve, sixteen or twenty stones gives all the musical tones, of a silvery, bell quality, when struck with a hammer.—K. C. Star.

Among collectors there are those who are fortunately blessed with the wisdom of studying antiques from actual contact with them, comparing, appraising the lines of beauty, gaining an appreciation of the skill of the cabinet-maker and storing up in their minds the variations in style of different periods and the points of difference between pieces of the same period.

It has been pointed out again and again by many writers that the only way to become thoroughly familiar with antiques is to study them at first hand. Pictures and descriptions can do much, and one who has read up on his subject enters a shop with a certain knowledge that is of value to him, but the expert, the one who really knows, is the one who has handled and turned upside down and learned the feeling of the objects.—Transcript.

IS WORKING IN MUSEUM.

Bertrand Schultz writes: "I am helping out in Morrill Hall and in the old museum in my spare hours. I put in about thirty hours per week there and enjoy the work very much. The old museum is about empty now, and now comes the biggest job. It will probably take about seven years to get the relics, fossils, bones, minerals, birds, etc., on display. Of course anyone may go through now. I act as guide on Sundays and I took through a group of Nebraska legislators."

HAS GOOD COLLECTION.

One can have hours of entertainment at the office of Dr. C. P. Zimmerman of Naper, Neb., who has practiced there as a government doctor for thirty years and seen the reservation become the home of prosperous white men. He claims the best collection of Indian relics there is in the west and with them has a large collection of fossils. He has one bone from a mastodon presumably which is forty-two inches thick and about a foot long. Another is about eight inches thick and about three feet long. These are extremely well preserved. He also has a skull taken from the Keya Paha creek which he claims is from some prehistoric man. He has an Indian skull and white person's skull to compare and this skull is much lower in the bone over the eyes and more than twice as thick as the bones in either of the others.

One pipe he secured from a very old Indian who claimed it was an heirloom and was used during the sixteenth century. He has the gloves worn by Jack Sully when he was shot, and given to him by Mrs. Sully. He has an unusually large pair of elk antlers which are more than three feet long and spread about five feet from tip to tip.

THE RENAISSANCE OF THE CIVIL WAR TOKENS AND CARDS

—By Dr. Hetrich.

The Civil War Tokens and Cards are coming into their own. The popularity of these coins have materially increased in the last few years, as is shown by the eagerness with which they are bought at auctions by the collectors. This condition is brought about mainly by two factors: First, collectors realize that the number of these coins are limited, there are no more made, and since the publication of the Gutttag and Hetrich list and using the list to classify their accumulation, it was not long before the collectors got a fair conception of the relative rarity of these coins. Second, the number of collectors are increasing.

These two conditions alone are sufficient to boost the collecting of these interesting coins. While there are many of these coins that are common and no doubt will always remain very common, a condition that should appeal to the moderate collector, but there are thousands of these scarce to very rare. No doubt some of the readers will sneer at this remark, but such a collector who studies these coins will soon discover that he will be compelled to search a long time before he will be able to get some of these coveted pieces. The rarity of some of these coins vie with the rarities of any of the series of other United States coins either in gold, silver or copper.

Up to 1925, there was no list of these coins by which a collector could take up the collecting of this series, but when the list referred to above, was published, the interest in them was instantly perceived. Previous to that time, there were many collectors who simply accumulated, deriving no pleasure from their possessions except the love of possession. There was no means of studying them—they did not know what they had nor did they know what they did not have.

The history of these coins is a most fascinating study. That they were necessity money during one of the direst periods of our Civil War is plainly evident to any student. The people of the northern states saw gold and silver go to a premium, when they naturally anticipated that copper coins would also go to a premium, which was verified later by copper coins commanding

a premium of twenty per cent premium. The scarcity of the current cents became so acute that it was impossible to get any small change. At this stage the die-sinkers were appealed to and they prepared dies and commenced to strike off coins the size of the current cents, with patriotic devices and sentiments, besides many merchants utilizing one side of these coins as an advertising medium.

Civil War history can be studied with the aid of the various sentiments found on these little coins. Rhode Island used some of these little coins to let the world know that they were first in the field. New York die-sinkers used the sentiment expressed by its war Governor Dix, "If anybody attempts to tear it down, shoot him on the spot." Some die makers used the following sentiment, "Millions for contractors but not one cent for the widow." Another die-sinker gave vent to a defiance on some of these coins, "Millions for defence but not one cent for tribute." Another slogan used was "No compromise with traitors." There were many more used and it would be well for any historian to study these coins if he wishes to get a proper view of the state of mind of the people during these troublesome times.

It is so natural for collectors to inquire about the relative rarity of these tokens. At the present time I know of no one individual that could give a correct idea of their rarity. The best advice that can be given, is that the collector get any that he does not have, and by experience he will quickly learn those that appear most frequently. There are between 7,000 to 7,500 varieties known, and no doubt there will be new varieties discovered as they are more thoroughly studied. The copper varieties are found most frequently and yet some in copper are so rare that only a few are known. Imagine only three copies of 1799 cent to be known—can you name a price? Next in frequency are those in brass, followed by those in white metal, then those in copper-nickel followed by those in nickel while the rarest are those in silver.

COLLECTS OLD BIBLES.

An interesting group of old Bibles has been collected by Mrs. Anne Nolen Christian of Monroe City, Mo. The oldest in the group is 165 years old. It was printed in Edinburgh, Scotland, and was brought to the United States in colonial days by ancestors of Miss Anna Garner, who now owns the Bible. Another in the group is 116 years old and belongs to Mrs. Rush Collins, having been handed down to her through her maternal grandfather's family. Family records in this book date back to 1814. Mrs. T. E. Earhart is the possessor of the third oldest Bible in the collection. This book, published in New York in 1824, is 103 years old. Two 100-year-old Bibles belong to Mrs. Kate Noel and Mrs. Charles Umstattd. All these have been in the respective families throughout the century or more since they were printed.—K. C. Star.

NEW CATALOGUE OF THE BUGS.

Warwick Benedict of Lawrence, Kas., who owns one of the finest private collections of beetles in the country, has undertaken the cataloguing of the entomological collection of the University of Kansas. He has given the university his own private collection and in addition is giving his services to the school in the work of re-arranging and listing the big collection. The university now has one of the biggest collections of bugs in the world. It was started by the late Dr. Francis H. Snow.

FINDS RARE INDIAN RELICS

Fayetteville, Ark., Jan. 16.—Soil tilled for generations by Arkansas planters has given up a large collection of Indian relics of pre-Columbian origin as a result of excavations made recently by Dr. S. C. Dellinger, professor of zoology, archaeologist and curator of the University of Arkansas museum.

The unusual specimens were unearthed only a foot or two below the surface of a cotton patch in Yell county, Arkansas, on the west bank of the Arkansas river. Dr. Dellinger declared it remarkable for the relics, centuries old, to be so well preserved such a short distance from the surface.

The collection in the University of Arkansas includes a wide variety of pottery, stone implements including axes, pipes, chisels, scrapers and spear heads. The archaeologist found dead roots of frosted cotton plants intertwined about several of the specimens, he said.

From the Yell county burial ground fragile pieces of ornamental and tri-colored pottery were removed, unscathed and still bearing the char of the campfires. All the pottery found proved to be that of the Caddo Indians, whose art was unexcelled by any other North American tribe, according to Dr. Dellinger. Several pieces of the pottery are of such unique design that University of Arkansas archaeologists are unable to determine their prehistoric use, since there are no known duplicates of them.

One of the rarest of all the specimens is a plain yellow mug shaped like an egg cup, but larger. This relic contains a cup at either end, the top becoming the base when inverted. Its use is not known.

A water bottle with the effigy of a human life-size head moulded on it is the relic Dr. Dellinger prizes most highly of all his recent findings. A leering red face with high cheek bones, prominent nose, beady eyes and small extended ears, each pierced with three holes, constitute the head, which is decorated in red, yellow and black designs.

In the collection are fifteen water bottles, no two of which are alike, some having long necks, others short ones, some having flared lips and others smooth ones. Art work on the bottles consists of scroll designs in as many as three colors, and fingernail etchings, either raised or engraved.

Several large vase-shaped cooking pots are in the collection, the largest having a capacity of more than two gallons. Two are equipped with handles. Two bowls of the Cazula type were found nesting together in a grave with a human effigy. Thus far, Dr. Dellinger has not been able to separate the bowls. In another grave the Arkansas archaeologist unearthed a large bowl bearing designs of lightning flashes.

Consisting of more than a hundred pieces, the rare collection embracing implements of religious rites, war, trade, hunting, household arts and agriculture of a prehistoric people of Arkansas, will be preserved in the university museum. The collection also will be used by Dr. Dellinger in the preparation of a monograph on the Arkansas Indian tribes and their culture, a subject on which he has been working several years.

Dr. Dellinger was accompanied on his recent expedition by his brother, R. H. Dellinger Jr., a sophomore in the university. All the excavating was done by hand in order to prevent destruction of any specimens.—K. C. Star.

The Treasury Department recently destroyed \$500,000 in counterfeit money which had been captured by the secret service over a long period. There were 20,000 counterfeit coins.

NUMISMATIC NOTES.—By M. Sorenson.

If anyone still thinks it is not instructive to study numismatics, let him take a fling at old Germany. When I was younger than I am now—also more ignorant and innocent—I took a fancy to collecting German silver thalers. My aim was to secure a nice silver dollar of each variety, issued during the last two centuries. For a little while things went smooth enough, but it was not long before I ran up against one great obstacle—not that of being unable to find the desired coins, but I soon found that the contents of my pocketbook was too small to allow me to reach my goal. With the ever changing combinations of German principalities I found that in the period mentioned there had been about 200 such combinations, all of them issuing money and several of them in many different varieties, as each ruling “prince, pope and potentate” had issued dollars. So I never got my collection of German dollars completed—in fact I just got fairly started. But what I learned about German political history made up for my shortcomings in securing the wanted dollars.

If any collector is looking for a job and don't just know where to head in, tackle old Germany. It will keep you busy a long time.

Mr. C. J. Matheney, El Paso, Texas, has kindly sent me the following notes of John Dunlop, who is 1777 printed some of our Colonial bills. He was an Irishman from Strabane, who served as an officer in Washington's body guard, and proved his earnestness in the cause of liberty by contributing \$25,000 to the war chest of the rebel army. In 1784 he founded the first daily paper in the United States, “The Pennsylvania Packet,” which afterward became “The North American Gazette.” He printed the following Colonial bills, dated April 10, 1777:

Three pence, small upright; 4 pence, small upright; 6 pence; 9 pence, same as above; 1 shilling, 1 shilling 6 pence, 2 shillings, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, 20 and 40 shillings and 4 pounds.

And the following: Frame, arms and value printed in red: 1 shilling, 1 shilling 6 pence, 2 shillings and above mentioned denominations steel engraved.

Germany has lately issued several commemorative coins, among which I mention:

A 3 mark and a 5 mark piece, commemorating the centennial of Bremerhaven, the harbor for Bremen.

A 3 mark piece to commemorate the thousandth year of the founding of the imperial city of Nordhausen. This coin bears figures of the emperor and empress who founded it.

A 3 mark and a 5 mark piece commemorating the founding of the University of Tubingen, 450 years ago. These coins bear a portrait of the Duke Eberhard the Bearded, of Wurtemberg, the founder.

A 3 mark piece commemorating the founding of the University of Marburg, 400 years ago, by Phillip, Elector of Hessen.

These coins are of the usual German type, pleasing in designs, bold and strong in execution. It is true that the eagle does not look exactly like the bird we call an eagle, but as an allegorical eagle it will pass muster.

Speaking of eagles—our own American eagle has at times been rather badly disfigured by well meaning designers.

During the last few years we have had the following commemorative half dollars issued: 1921, Pilgrim Tercentenary, 100,053. 1921, Missouri Centennial, 50,028. 1921, Alabama Centennial, 70,044. 1922, Grant Centennial,

100,061. 1923, Monroe Doctrine Centennial, 274,000. 1924, Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary, 142,080. 1925, Stone Mountain Commemorative, 2,314,709. 1925, Lexington-Concord Centennial, 162,099. 1925, California Diamond Jubilee, 150,200. 1925, Fort Vancouver Centennial, 50,028. 1926, Sesqui-Centennial, 1,000,528. 1926, Oregon Trail, 148,085. 1927, Bennington-Vermont Sesqui-Centennial, 40,034.

According to the Mint Report these coins were struck in the numbers given above. All were not sold, and of some issues were large numbers returned to the mint.

Coins, jewelry, ornaments and houses of Alexander the Great's time have just been found in Taxila, an ancient buried city in North Western India. These relics prove the extraordinary extent of Alexander's conquests and journeys in Asia. With an army recruited mainly from his native country, Macedonia, a little state about the size of Belgium, he conquered half of Asia, all the inhabitable parts of Africa and the civilized part of Europe.

Among the more recent finds in Taxila was a pot containing 1,167 coins of silver, besides several pieces of gold and silver jewelry. Most of the coins are punchmarked Indian issue, including a number of local Taxila types. They are of various shapes and sizes.

Others, again, are tiny round pieces punched on one side only, and so small that one wonders how they could have passed from hand to hand. But what invests this find with unique value is the presence of Greek coins apparently fresh from the mint—two of Alexander the Great and one of Philip Aridaeus—besides a well worn Daric of the Persian Empire.

They bear on one side Alexander's head with a lion's skin, and on the reverse Zeus on the throne with eagle and a sceptre. Philip Aridaeus was an unfortunate son of Philip II, of Macedonia, Alexander's father, and became Philip III, after Alexander's death in 329 B. C. He was murdered in 317.

The profile of Alexander on the coins corresponds with the portrait made familiar by many works of art.

LYON CURIO STORE GAINS DISTINCTION.

The Lyon Curio Store of Clinton, Neb., is rapidly reaching the point where it is considered the leading Indian curio shop of this western country. They are constantly shipping Indian equipment and curios to shows, organizations and individuals.

In November Mr. Ray Lyon took a large amount of equipment to the Haskell Institute at Lawrence, Kas., where he outfitted the participants in a gigantic pageant. It was an original production by one of the instructors there, and pictured the changes and development of Indian life from the earliest days down to the present, the last scene showing the young folks going to modern schools in automobiles.

This was the second time that Mr. Lyon had been called upon by the Haskell people to outfit a large cast of players for one of their productions.

LINCOLN MANUSCRIPT BOUGHT FOR \$18,000.

New York.—The original manuscript of Abraham Lincoln's speech on "sectionalism," delivered in the Fremont campaign in 1856, has been sold for \$18,000 at auction to Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, New York collector and dealer. The manuscript, comprising about 1,750 words in Lincoln's handwriting, was the property of William Latham of Lincoln, Ill.

ANCIENT RELICS IN SAND PIT

Paleontologists, archaeologists, anthropologists and kindred scientists from all over the United States have been invited to assemble in Frederick, Ok., probably in the month of February, for the purpose of studying animate and inanimate curiosities found in the A. H. Holloman sand pit. Plans were formulated by Dr. J. G. Figgins, director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, and Harold J. Cook, vertebrae paleontologist.

Beginning a year ago and continuing until now, the Holloman sand and gravel pit, one mile north of Frederick, has been almost daily startling the scientific world by its yield of prehistoric bones, implements made by man and other evidence that life existed upon the western hemisphere hundreds of thousands of years ago.

Latest evidence of prehistoric man's existence in Southwestern Oklahoma is a large piece of human skull found a few weeks ago in the famous sand pit, the skull fragment being the bone that formed the base of the ear of a human being. Dr. F. G. Priestly, Frederick physician, who called the scientific world's attention to the bones, arrow heads and other artifacts found in the Holloman pit, says the "ear-bone" uncovered a few days ago is unquestionably that of a human. The bone was found in the stratum where nearly all the other bones and the artifacts were found—about fifteen feet below the earth's surface.—Oklahoman.

GIVES MINERALS TO U. OF P.

Philadelphia.—The Hatch collection of fossils, petrifications and minerals which formed part of the exhibit of the Mines and Mineralogy section of the Centennial Exposition in 1876, was presented to the University of Pennsylvania today, following its purchase by George E. Nitzsche, recorder of the university.

The more valuable specimens in the collection, which was compiled by John Hatch of San Francisco, who was inspector of mines, and by Professor Montroville W. Dickeson, will be added to the George A. Koenig memorial collection of minerals presented to the university by Mr. Nitzsche last spring.

The Hatch collection contains several thousand specimens and is especially rich in fossil stones. After the centennial exposition it was exhibited for many years in Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park, and after its removal from there changed hands a number of times.

COINS 2,000 YEARS OLD GIVEN TOLEDO MUSEUM.

Three 2,000-year-old Roman coins, worth nothing at face value but priceless as relics, have been presented to the Toledo, O., museum of art by Thomas Winezop.

The coins were found by Winezop, hidden in a crucifix brought to this country from his mother's home in Switzerland seven years ago.

Winezop said the crucifix in which the relics were found had been in his mother's possession about sixty years. He did not know the history of the image previous to those years.—Bishoff.

Sorry to report the death of F. B. Gooch of Washington, D. C., who passed away October 26, after an illness of about seven weeks' duration. Mr. Gooch went to Tuckerton, N. J., early in August for several weeks' vacation, but returned in a few days and took to his bed. A stroke of paralysis hastened his death. Mr. Gooch was a very fine philatelist.

INTO INDIAN MOUND SECRETS.

Nine Pineville, Mo., men, whose experience as archaeologists began when their boyhood ramblings took them to caches of Indians and prehistoric relics in the Ozark hills, have arrived here for a brief vacation before returning to Illinois to complete one of the foremost exploration projects of modern times—the excavation of the famous Indian mounds.

When Prof. Warren K. Moorehead, director of the Andover, Mass., museum, was engaged by the University of Illinois to conduct the task of exploring mounds of that state, he turned to the workers who had helped him in excavating the Ozark cave near Pineville, Jacob's cavern, in 1903, and who had assisted in a second exploration of the cavern in 1923.

Jay L. B. Taylor, engineer, archaeologist and forest ranger, was placed in charge of the engineering work and mustered his crew from a group of experienced Pineville men.

With Taylor are Hurley Hopper, Frank Van Horn, Brownie Bradley, John Kelley, William Browning, Charles Timberlake, Clarence Mosier and William Grooms.

When the men return to their task early in April, the exploration party will begin excavation of the Cahokia group of mounds, probably the best known of them all. Principal among the objects of the exploration is to reconstruct a picture of the mound builders, their habits and place in the early history of the continent. Incidentally, it is hoped the question, long a puzzling one to scientists, of why the mounds were built at all, may be solved.

WEALTH OF ANCIENT ART LIES IN PRIVATE MUSEUM OF
W. J. LAYLAND.

He was born in Illinois some forty-five years ago. His mother, an English woman, had for several years had the hobby of collecting curios from time to time, and when he was six years old he started a stamp collection—which he still has; and from that start has grown one of the most remarkable collections of historical, beautiful, odd and altogether interesting relics that may be found.

He is by profession a plumber and his hobby, which he has ridden almost to perfection is curio-collecting. His shop is probably 10 per cent shop and 90 per cent museum.

While practically every country, and a number of phases of museum work are represented, Mr. Layland's particular hobby is early American history, preferably very early. His collection might be classed roughly into three divisions, prehistoric, historic Indian and Colonial American.

The Cliff-dwellers, of course, are the oldest; the other two probably contemporary. The Nomadic Indians left tomahawks, pottery, arrow-heads, beads and war instruments; and while such things are general in the three, the Totem-poles of the northwest are possibly more interesting.

Of later date there are armlets, belts, jackets, and papoose cases, all made of the beads. Mr. Layland has some eight of these baby cases, all entirely covered with beads, strung and woven into definite designs.

There are a large number of arrowheads classified and arranged on display boards; made of flint, jasper, jade, gold-stone, agate and crystal, and bear knives and hunting knives made of obsidian, or mineral glass.

Some of the tiniest and most delicate, the bird points, measure as small as a quarter of an inch in length, and for chipped work, are marvels of

accuracy, symmetry and balance. A number of these, mounted, were sent to the archaeologist of the Smithsonian Institute, and the opinion was expressed there that the collection was one of the largest and most complete of the smallest bird points in existence. Mr. Layland has a wealth of arrowheads, obtained at various times and in various places, many of which he has not yet unpacked.

Leaving the Indian part of the museum, one may see half a dozen spinning wheels which were used by the housewives of colonial days, of varying designs and sizes. A grandfather's clock is in one of the windows of the plumbing shop, and thereby hangs another tale. The clock was made in Cincinnati in 1777, as is shown by the legend on the face, was brought to Texas in its early American days, and stood for many years in the lobby of one of Texas' first hotels, and it was the standard for many of these years for the time pieces of the early settlers. There are other clocks, equally as interesting, and odd because of the fact that they are constructed entirely of wood—wooden wheels, rachets, everything.

Among this latter group, recalling Colonial days, and more especially Colonial warfare, is a collection of fifty or more powder horns and shot flasks, of every type and degree of beauty and utility possible.

Of historical value again, and ranging from the blunder-buss of the Spanish main to the long-barrel rifle of the Deerslayer and the modern gun, the collection of guns is fairly complete, yet it is not particularly specialized. He said that he was more interested in an arrowhead than in a bullet.

A collection of sabres is included in the group. These weapons date, as do many other articles, from the 12th and 13th centuries to the present day, and include the daggers of Spain, the swords of England, the Krisses of the Phillipines, and the shields of ancient Rome.

And then the books. Thin books, thick books, long books, short books, old books and new books, books of travel, books of adventure, and books of history, with the latter predominating. Mr. Layland stated that he had more than 2,500 volumes of books dating from 1641 to the present. Chief in interest among these are the old English Bible, a book of remedies for certain ills, and a geography of a hundred and fifty years ago.

Most bought of West advertisers.

IONIA, KAS., WOMAN IS TAXIDERMIST.

A taxidermist of no little skill, is Mrs. A. Schmitt, of northwest of Ionia, Jewell county, Kansas. More than 300 stuffed and mounted birds and animals are included in the collection of her work in her home. Birds from the tiny brilliant plumed humming bird to the graceful king of birds, the eagle, are arranged in lifelike postures in her collection. Foxes, squirrels, rabbits, badgers, you can call the roll of wild life of the prairie, and find the species represented. Mrs. Schmitt took her first lesson in taxidermy from an uncle when she was a girl, and she has spent many interesting and happy hours in the work as her collection attests. Hers is believed to be one of the largest in this section of Kansas.

MESSRS SPINK & SON ANNOUNCE CHANGE OF LOCATION.

Been for 35 years at 16, 17, 18 Piccadilly, London, has been transferred to 5, 6, 7 King Street, St. James', S. W. 1, London, according to an announcement by the firm. See their page ad.

THE NUGGETS UNDERFOOT.

In 1485 Diogo Cam, intrepid Portuguese navigator, sailed down the coast of Africa looking for a new route to the Spice Islands (East Indies). He discovered the Congo river. In the region of the river lay vast wealth in ivory, but Diogo could not see it. He sailed on, with his mind's eye fixed steadily on the wealth of the Spice Islands.

Seven years later Columbus discovered America. In the new continent lay an inexhaustible wealth of natural resources, but for two hundred years no one saw them. Columbus and his followers were too busy sailing up and down the coast, looking for a "Northwest Passage" which would lead them to the wealth of the Spice Islands.

Thus the vision of a mountain of gold has often blinded men to the nuggets underfoot. History teems with such examples, and so does modern business.

In Philately, a striking example is the energetic way dealers and collectors have attempted to hoard the stamps of certain highly popular countries, chiefly United States and British Colonies. They have neglected many other countries of great possibility but only medium popularity.

Nowadays the "Spice Islands" class of stamps bring such exorbitant prices that only the wealthy can afford them. Wise collectors are turning more and more for investment to certain of the less popular but coming countries—the nuggets underfoot.

This increasing interest in the less popular countries has already begun to send the prices up. In the 1928 Scott catalogue there were more rising values among these countries than among the "old standbys." Yet many of them are still under-catalogued, and for the present inexpensive.

The pre-eminence of British Colonies and United States stamps cannot be denied. But collectors striving to reach the Spice Islands of Philately should count the cost, and look narrowly at the countries they have hitherto passed by.—Harris, Boston.

REDEEMS "WILD CAT" BILLS.

If you have a \$7 bill issued by the Bank of Charleston, it is still good. All the various odd denominations of currency issued by Southern banks in the wild cat days of banking are unheard of now.

A \$3, \$4 or \$8 bill is no good except to the collector of curiosities, unless it originated with the Bank of Charleston. That institution, now the South Carolina National bank, assumed all its obligations when the national banking act was passed in 1872. To this day it redeems notes issued as far back as its founding in 1838.

The Charleston News and Courier reports that in the last few years few of the old notes have been brought in. Some have come from Europe, and occasionally a few are found among the effects of an oldtimer at his death.

Since 1921 only five notes have been sent in for redemption. One was an \$8 bill, sent in a couple of years ago. The bank has no special fund for taking care of these notes, so they are charged up to profit and loss. It is unlikely that there are enough of them to cause a run on the bank.

Hens scratching in a sandpit on the golf links at Fleetwood, England, recently caused the discovery of 400 Roman gold coins.

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Gold 5 Dollars, 1834-35-36-37-38, each	6.00
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Austria, 1 Dollar and 2 Dollars, copper	.10
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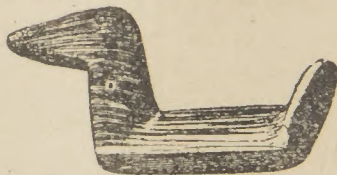
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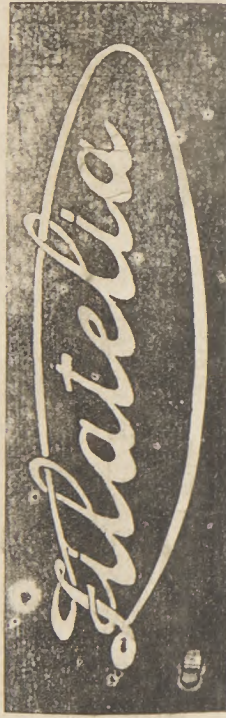
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VOLUME 86

JUNE, 1928

NUMBER 3

PHILATELIC WEST AND COLLECTORS WORLD



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Malta, tiny ¼ farthing of George V., unc., red12
Jersey (Island) 1923, new issue penny, bright red25
Poland, 1600-15 silver 3 groszy of Sigismund III., very early date, fine25
1926 Sesqui-Centennial ½ dollar, busts of Washington and Coolidge, unc.	1.50
10 different dates U. S. large copper cents65
France, 1791-93 large 2 sous of Louis XVI. made of bell metal, very good40
Japan, (1800) silver ¼ bu, rectangular shape, very curious, unc.30
Japan, (1800) silver bu, similar to above, but larger, unc.75
Siam, about 1800, silver tical bullet money, so called from shape resembling a bullet, fine90
Ancient Rome, 45 B. C. silver denarius or penny of Julius Caesar, obv. an elephant, fine	1.25
Arabia, 600 A. D., bronze fish-hook money, so called from shape, fine90
Laos (Northern Siam) brass lat or boat money, resembling a canoe, fine	1.00
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1857-58 U. S. flying eagle cent, the pair15
\$5.00, \$10.00 and \$20.00 Confederate bills, 1864 issue, fine, the three15
Siam porcelain money, very curious, fine40
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1846 Mexico, gold peso (size U. S. gold dollar), fine	1.50
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1926 Sesqui-Centennial \$2.50 gold, view of Independence Hall, unc.	4.25
U. S. \$2.50 gold, early type dated 1834-38, fine	3.50
France, 1854, gold 5 francs or dollar of Napoleon III., small, thin, fine	1.75
England, 1603-25 silver 6 pence of Jas. I. with bust, dated50
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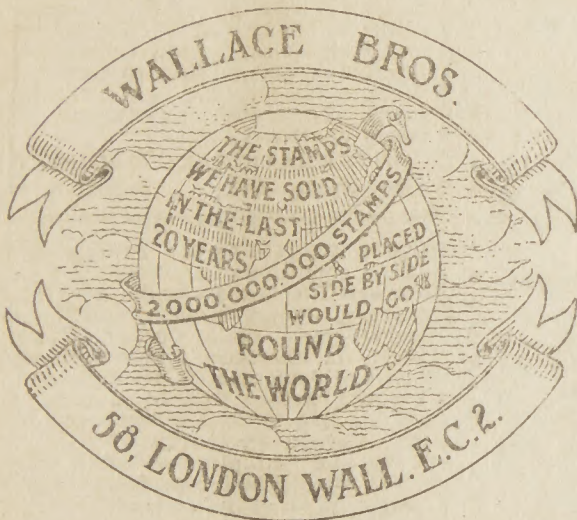
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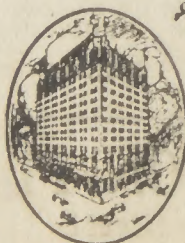
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AIRPLANE STAMP NEWS

East Orange, New Jersey

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Old checks, street car transfers, match box covers and pocket match stubs, 100 or more early cigaret cards of 1890, up with actors on for best offer; also some photo size; precanceled, block of 4 to 20, also plain block 1c to 20c; 3,000 permits 1890 up; some 2x4 postmarks 2x4; 100 metered envelopes 1c, 2c and 4c; commemoratives, used and mint blocks of 4 at two-thirds catalogue; revalued post cards, mint and used. Jefferson card, Grant letter sheets, mint, 1,000 or more. Entire used covers 1870 up; few buffalo horns 50c each; 1½ Burea and Coil stamps. Lot old stamp papers 1890 up; Redfield's, most all kinds.—Jos. L. Weber, 224 E. North St., Bethlehem, Pa.

One Cent Approvals. Free Premium.—

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Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,
Monuments of Heroics; Records of Industrial Achievements;
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires;
All these and More are Stamps.
ESTABLISHED 1895

THE PHILATELIC WEST

QUARTERLY JOURNAL WITH NO DEALING INTERESTS OF ANY KIND.

An Independent Publication Devoted to Best Interests of Collectors of All Kinds.
Includes the New York and Omaha Philatelists, Photo Bulletin, Post Card World,
Eastern Philatelist, Philatelic Bulletin, Juvenile Philatelist, Collectors' World,
Curio Monthly, Redfield's Stamp Weekly and many others.

Entered at the Post Office at Superior, Nebraska, as second class mail matter.

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STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP.—In accordance with Act of Congress, August 24, 1912.—Publisher, Owner and Manager, L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebraska.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of March, 1928.

(Seal)

C. HOUT, Notary Public.

VOLUME 86

JUNE, 1928

NUMBER 3

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

Next West early fall number. Don't delay, get your ad today. Gets better display and location. Most say costs less, produces best.

Byington, Ark., says finds West is best medium to reach the collector or others interested. He has tried ads for over year or more, should know.

Capt. Cook, Hawaiian, coins Valley Forge stamp seems last one reported for to be issued.

Hamilton, Ill., reports got over 100 letters referring to his adlets he was not able to answer during his illness. Knows West has big circulation.

Rapkin, London, got out one of the best accessory catalogs and makes some of finest albums we have seen. Pay any reader to get one.

Winter, Minn., finds no other magazine that can compete with West in philatelic field.

Who has any Moorhead books. Have many calls and he is now making fine discoveries in Georgia.

Rinke, Ky., thinks West best collector's paper for any hobby and best for ad sales.

Midwest philatelic exhibition, Cleveland, week of May 21. Pay all to take this in.

Watts, Miss., says he is 100% for West, but considers himself small fish at present. He has been collector from kid up to his thirtieth year.

Have you sent for copy Wallace, London, catalog. Pay any dealer or collector to send and get copy soon.

Jacobs, Ariz., always gets lots of orders from his ads in the West.

DON'T FORGET—Mention West when answering ads. Thank You.

For an International Stamp Dealers' Bourse in London, Eng., the largest hall in the Holborn restaurant has been hired and the Bourse will be held for three days, June 25, 26 and 27. This is the first time an international stamp dealers' bourse has been held in London.

THE AIR STAMP.—By Geoffrey N. Monk.

What pleasures, what delights are held in those three words which form the title of my essay. Is there any philatelist who is not drawn irresistibly towards the fascinating web which those words can weave? Even if there be a few, a stubborn few, who persistently declare that Philately can only be pursued along the purely regular lines of general collecting, surely those few cannot resist the charm which surrounds the Air Stamp. To me it seems improbable, nay, impossible, that whilst the Air Stamp exists there can be a disinterested philatelist.

“Breathes there the man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,
‘This is my own, my native land?’ ”

Yes! the land of the Air Stamp.

The Air Stamp is more than a mere label which is affixed to a letter to ensure carriage. It is an emblem of increasing science, the science of Aeronautics, which has only received the support of the Post Offices of the world since 1910, when the brothers Wright made a flight in co-operation with the U. S. A. Post Offices. We find it in semi-official form as a mark that Germany also had her representatives in the air mail at this time, for the first semi-official Air Stamp was issued on February 1, 1912, on the flight Bork to Bruck. Yet it is indeed a very modern phase of Philatelic interest, as the first official Air Stamps were issued on May 22, 1917, in Italy.

In collecting the Air Stamp the philatelist has a very fine field in which to hunt for his quarry. He is not encompassed by the walls of forgery until he searches further out in quest of the complete Air Post letter. Then he must beware the forger, but who cares? For is not the forger part of the game, and is it not for us to detect him and expel him from our “world?” Yes! the forger takes a large part of the pit-falls which are met when collecting the complete Air Mail, but he can be avoided with care and the help of the J. P. S. Expert Committee.

But if the “Aerist” keeps to the Air Stamp, the Air Stamp pure and simple, then his fears are greatly lessened, for by dealing with a reliable firm he is sure of freedom from the forgery. And in this phase of Philately, in collecting the Air Stamp, he finds an inexhaustible supply for this interesting hobby.

The Air Stamp is the stamp of today and of the future. The ranks of the Air Stamps are growing rapidly and the aero philatelist has always new material to study. Yet, despite this growth Air Stamps have what many, nay most, ordinary stamps lack, they have design embodied in them. The modern designer finds scope for his art in creating the Air Stamp, and so each new Air Stamp is beautiful in form, and the first casual glance attracts even the most unartistic eyes. When he has exhausted the studies of perforation, print and paper, the aero philatelist has just commenced, because the Air Stamp has much more than the mere fundamentals of Philately, it has history and beauty of many natures.

Come with me on a little stroll through the outskirts of the “Land of the Air Stamp.” Let us wander gently along the borders of this wonderland and spend a few minutes of interest and pleasure by following the routes over which just one of these Air Stamps could travel if it were affixed to a letter packet and the whole suitably posted. A few materials, a little pleasant study and lo! we have traced a map which will assist greatly in beautifying our

album (and I, for one, have learned quite a lot of new and useful information too.)

But let us pass on and visit the aerodrome, in which we can see the varying types of aeroplanes and seaplanes which carry the mails, and while we are here, let us inquire about the carrying accommodation of the mail-bags. Quite a large amount of letters and parcels is carried on each speedy passage through the air, more than one might imagine.

Still more of these practical facts attract us, and so, apart from this curiously philatelic data, we learn that many hours, often amounting to days, are saved by the Air Mail, where before the letters were carried by train or other means. And while we are thinking of time, there is the date of issue of our chosen Air Stamp to be traced, for our desire for correct data shows us that a number of so-called descriptive catalogues still differ when their dateable information is compared. But we digress, and the time we allotted for this walk is passing quickly. For here we learn that there was an unfortunate mishap on the first flight over the route which we traced, and the second mail trip proved disastrous owing to climatic conditions, and so this Air Mail was withdrawn, and now this Air Stamp has become obsolete. And thus on and on we Aero Philatelists can roam into our hobby. We can find a vast quantity of pleasing study which all revolves around a single stamp, the Air Stamp.

Yes! those who join the throng of Air Stamp Philatelists can pride themselves on their excellent choice, and can be sure of having endless hours of enjoyment with their pleasurable hobby, the philatelic and academic study of the Air Stamp.—Stamp Lover.

The commemorative stamp has come to stay, or until it is supplanted by some other form of celebration. The explanation of the popularity of this stamp is simple, even if it is not on the surface. The fact is that the postage stamp has grown to be so big a factor in every-day life that it may no longer be claimed as the private property of even a considerable band of those who look upon the stamp with unusual sympathy and understanding. The postal talisman belongs to all the people and is an intimate bond between them and their government; and for that reason, the stamp loans itself to use in transmitting a message or preaching a text, in an ideal way. While the opinion of philatelists in connection with new issues of stamps should be sought and given weight when once given, yet the stamp belongs to all the people, and not some of them. The postage stamp has become so big in its suggestions and potentialities that it is too large for any class of people to handle; hence, as a messenger to the masses, the postage stamp is unrivalled in reach and directness. The question of financial integrity sometimes enters into the analysis of the character of the commemorative stamp; and when it does, the problem of arriving at a decision is complicated. The only comfort the philatelic opponent of all unnecessary issues may have is embraced in the hope that the commemorative idea will not be carried to extremes, and that no financial aim attend their issue. Further than this, it is unlikely that he will have cause for rejoicing as even he must admit that stamps are an unmatchable means for celebration.—Mekeel.

A bonus of 2 cents to Paris letter carriers for every letter they deliver with an erroneous address is proposed.

POSTAL CURIOS—COLLECTION OF RETIRED OFFICIAL.

A collection of more than 100,000 postal curios, formed by a retired post office official, and now the property of the Union of Post Office Workers, is catalogued for exhibition in rooms once occupied by Sir Roland Hill, founder of the penny post.

The collection includes a letter dated May 24, 1639, written by Sir E. Osborne, who was in command in Yorkshire, to Colonel Fairfax at the time of the advance of the royal army against the Scots. It had been mailed: "With all possible speede, hast hast hast, post hast hast for life."

Another letter is dated 1531, from Sir John Fortescue, chancellor of the exchequer, to the Queen. Another was from Captain Robert Clarke, of the Drake, to the Admiralty, sent post-haste from Dover. It left Dover at noon and reached Canterbury at 3 p. m., Sittingbourne at 6 p. m., Rochester at 8 p. m., Dartford at 2 a. m., and arrived in London at 6 a. m.

Perhaps the earliest curio is a postage receipt for a Normandy mail dated 1397. Another interesting receipt was one for which the coach mail messenger asked Queen Elizabeth 20s fee for delivery in Kent.

An interesting document, dated 1650, is described as one of the earliest post office guides. It has the following introduction: "A brief directory for those who would send their letters to any part of England. Alphabetically printed so that none may pretend ignorance who would gladly send. . . ." A list of the times of mail coaches for all parts of the country was appended.

Among the thousands of objects are a medal from which was taken the portrait head of the first penny stamp in the world, issued in May, 1840, a number of flint revolvers carried by the guards of mails; a coachman's tin top hat, his high boots, satchel, post horns, a complete set of horses' bells (1620), and a telescope from the mail carrier H. M. S. Packet Frolic (1823).

There is also a bell used by a postman named Thomas Crofts, of Greyfriars street, Nottingham, in 1799, a stout baton supplied to G. P. O. workers at the time of the Chartist riots in 1848, and a packhorse bell, once used by Richard White, of Reading, in 1620. There is a silver stop watch which registers units, tens and hundreds, used to count persons passing through turnstiles in 1799 and still in perfect working order. A bag made from the bladder of a sheepskin for the St. Kilda mail, which used to be thrown into the sea, bears the words "Please open."

An official of the union stated yesterday that the union had bought the collection in order to prevent it leaving the country. They hoped that one day it would be coupled with the Post Office's already large collection to form the nucleus of a permanent Post Office Museum.—London paper.

Never before have there been so many philatelic societies or stamp clubs in existence as there is at present. Reports of the organization of new bodies of the kind show the spread of systematized collecting, and the results of this activity will be manifest. The idea of organization is the order of the day, and the fact that collectors are making a record in this regard is a satisfaction, indeed. Here, tribute should be given to those in a position to direct the activities of young people who recognize that in philately there is an admirable outlet for the spirit of youth. These workers are performing a service that is helpful to all of us, even though their efforts are not heralded as widely as they deserve to be. Action of this kind is more beneficial to our pursuit than theoretical discussions of how to extend our influence.—Mekeel.

NORWAY—AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE WITH NO. 4.— By G. Larson.

It may interest specialists in the stamps of Norway to know the prices realized on a few items at a recent auction in Norway. A block of four of Scott's No. 2 brought \$71, a block of No. 5 went for \$23 and a block of four of Scott's No. 4 received a bid of only about \$13.

This recalls to my mind the block of eight of this stamp which caused such furore of excitement at the Worcester auction two years ago. This block was run up to the stupendous sum of \$165, on what was claimed was an out-of-town bid.

The writer was hot in the competition, acting for a party out west, but of course missed it, only to be approached by the auctioneers later with regards tot taking it over, as, "sadly enough," the bidder had been under the impression that he had been bidding on a block of No. 1, and of course upon discovering his mistake promptly returned the item.

Wisely enough, my client refused to consider it, and I do not know where the block is today. A certain dealer "it is said," claimed he could take the block and split it into two fours, and sell each for a \$100, but don't know if he did it or not.—Mekeels.

THE IDEAL COLLECTION—By F. H. Buck Jr.

When a youngster starts out to collect, or when the veteran collector decides to shift albums, he has three alternatives: first, he can put his collection in printed albums; second, he can put his collection in sectional albums; and third, he can place his collection in blank albums. Some collectors may be in a quandary as to which is the ideal choice. For them we will try and define an ideal collection.

There can be no ideal collection from any one man's point of view. The duty of the hobby is to satisfy the natural craving of a man to collect. There are men who do not care in what manner they collect, but collect only for the pleasure of possessing. To those who are "stamp gatherers" the printed albums should be ideal. A collection must be housed. The printed album is a house for an accumulation of stamps.

Next there is the man who does a little more than gather stamps; he collects stamps. And in the interest of systematic and scientific collecting such a man naturally desires the sectional albums, which are accordingly his ideal. Thus a man is able to specialize in the countries which are of interest to him.—Pacific Stamp News.

VIEWS STAMP ALBUM OF KING GEORGE.

London.—During her recent week-end visit to Buckingham Palace, Queen Elizabeth of Belgium made a point of examining King George's stamp album. The King has been an ardent stamp collector all his life, and his collection contains many specimens bought with money "saved up" for the purpose during his boyhood.

Queen Elizabeth is a keen philatelist, as also is the Queen of Italy. Not long ago the Queen of the Belgians obtained as complete a set as possible of Belgian stamps and sent them to the other Queen collector.

DENMARK.

Is a good country to collect because is can be completed at a relatively small expense. Ideal for specialization. Is bound to have investment possibilities.

NORWAY'S IBSEN ISSUE—LITERARY PORTRAIT GALLERY.

The postage stamp gallery of international literary celebrities has just received the interesting addition of a set of Ibsen stamps, issued on the 100th anniversary of his birth, March 20. There are four values in the rather small size of the stamp normal to Norwegian stamp issues, all bearing the characteristic picture of the dramatist, together with his signature, "Henrik Ibsen," and the dates 1828-1928. The denominations are 10 ore green, 15 ore brown, 20 ore scarlet, and 30 ore blue.

Although many countries have long made a practice of portraying their most distinguished statesmen, soldiers and scientists on stamps, the admission of literary geniuses to the portrait gallery on stamps is of recent origin. It may be said to have begun with Portugal's issue in 1898 to commemorate the exploits of Vasco da Gama, thrillingly related in the "Lusiads" of Camoens, whose picture appeared on two of the stamps. Spain gave us the "Don Quixote" issue of 1905, with quaint scenes from the immortal story, and a very poor portrait of Cervantes. A handsome picture of that author, and a statue of him, appear on stamps issued in Spain on the tercentenary of his death in 1916.

Among other great personages in literature, Italy has pictured Dante, Manzoni and Mazzini and promises us a philatelic glimpse of Virgil. D'Annunzio was portrayed on the stamps of Fiume during his adventure there. Germany's current stamps present Schiller and Goeth. France has pictured Pierre de Ronsard, and will give us two more portraits next year of Victor Hugo and Lamartine. A portrait of Byron figures on a Greek stamp and one of Francis Bacon on a stamp of Newfoundland. Poland contributes a portrait of the "Satan of Poetry," Slowacki, and Russia is planning stamp issues commemorating Tolstoy and Maxim Gorky. But probably the chief literary interest in stamps with kindred associations lies in the knowledge they bring us of famous writers honored by many nations, large and small, like Boteff and Vasoff of Bulgaria, Petoff, Karl Marx and Maurice Jokai of Hungary, Gertrude de Avellaneda of Cuba, Vasile Alexandri of Roumania, Tarasse Schevtschenko of Ukraine and perhaps a score or more notables in the literary development of the American republics.—Postage Stamp.

LAST YEAR'S PHILATELY—HUNDREDS OF NEW ISSUES.

Between 1,600 and 1,700 new postage stamps were issued during 1927 by the postal administrations of the world, bringing up the total of standard main varieties to over 47,000. These figures give only a small indication of the enormous variety of postage stamps known to the philatelist, but they serve to show how great a task it would be nowadays to attempt to collect stamps without setting some limits to the field to be covered. On the other hand specialism is narrowing down fields of study so closely that it is creating new problems. Both here and in America intense specialism in a single issue or even a single denomination of an issue has been carried to great lengths. Where the thorough-going specialist may find 2,880 varieties of the English 1d. black stamp, it is nothing to what some day their successors will do with the 1d. red stamp which superseded it. Without the convenient aid of the English check-letters, American specialists has accomplished still more remarkable results with such stamps as the U. S. 1 cent and 3 cents of 1851-57.

Between the Scylla of general collecting and the Charybdis of intense specialism, the vast majority of collectors follow middle courses, which are

determined by the dictates of their hearts and the state of their purses. There is, happily, abundant pleasure to be derived from the pursuit of stamps along your own lines and in accordance with your own means.

No sweeping changes in the issues of the British Empire were made by the new stamps of 1927. The change-over to the Script watermark, which commenced in 1921, is now practically complete. Notable events in Imperial history have been marked by the Australian stamp celebrating the opening of the Parliament House at Canberra by the Duke and Duchess of York last May and by the interesting series of stamps commemorating the sixty years of the Canadian Confederation. The historic decision of the Privy Council awarding Labrador to Newfoundland is to have its stamp records on a new series to be issued in the Dominion on New Year's Day. The apparently unending series of temporary stamps from Palestine and Transjordan have given place at last to distinctive, and let us hope definite, issues.

Among foreign countries France was under the necessity of reorganizing her postage stamps to meet her new currency conditions, and withdrew a large number of superfluous denominations. The United States, in addition to some stamps celebrating sesqui-centenaries of events of the War of Independence, contributed a stamp of memorable interest marking the great achievement of Colonel Lindbergh in his single-handed crossing of the Atlantic by air. Italy marked the centenary of the electrical pioneer, Volta, and Japan the jubilee of her admission to the Postal Union. Russia who has taken stamp collecting under its wing, recorded rather a lurid set of completion of ten years of Soviet sway. The latest stamps to hand at the close of the year were from Finland, marking the tenth anniversary of her independence.

In stamp circles there was a flourishing activity. The Royal Philatelic Society achieved the long-cherished ambition of having a permanent home of its own in London, and the Collectors' Club of New York, in rather quicker time, found means to provide a similar headquarters in New York. After the great efforts to beat all records at the International Philatelic Exhibition in New York in October, 1926, none of the big capitals ventured into the field in 1927, but there have been very successful international exhibitions in Strasbourg and Luxemburg, and national shows at Copenhagen and Jamaica. Stamp auctions have been growing in number and in importance. It is perhaps one of the best signs of the stability of the stamp market that such enormous lots of stamps and so many important collections can come under the hammer each year and be absorbed in collections, and yet maintain the general tendency of increase in values. London is the chief stamp auction center of the world, and scarcely a day passes between September and May without one, two or even three sales being held in the metropolis.—Postage Stamp.

The hobby plays an important part in very many people's lives. Many people for some reason or other find themselves in occupations entirely unsuited to them but they have some thing to keep them interested in living and a hobby of some kind is usually resorted to. It helps break up the monotony and gives spice to life. A hobby is a great thing to have. When you meet a person with a hobby you can usually know that the man is awake and appreciative of nature's beauty. Time always passes better in the company of a person who has one and his enthusiasm is usually contagious—The Collectors Journal.

WANTED, AN AMERICAN MELVILLE.

We often wonder what could happen in America if some enthusiast, as strong for junior work as Fred Melville has been in London, were to put his shoulder to the wheel and actually "go at" organizing junior stamp clubs in the schools, the Y. M. C. A. and allied organizations. We had hoped that something like this would develop through the Rogers' motion at the International Exhibition in New York—but so far we see nothing but the resolution.

Whenever we think about the matter we think a great friend of boys, and a man with the time and inclination could be found to put this movement into action. A paper prepared by Mr. George Bos, principal of the Passaic, N. J., Christian school and read before a meeting of Eastern Teachers' association.

"This seems perhaps out of place at a gathering of teachers, but if we read that both Italy and Czechoslovakia have introduced the study of stamps (philately) in their schools with excellent results, there must be at least some educational value in it, otherwise the teachers of these schools, as well as their boards, would not encourage the collecting of stamps.

"Last year every boy and girl in Baltimore was given an opportunity to enter a competitive essay contest, the subject of which was, 'How does stamp collecting help a student in his studies and what are the advantages to be gained from stamp collecting.' The city of Philadelphia has done something on similar lines and in many New York high schools stamp collecting is encouraged by the instructors. This shows that the American educators are beginning to see the educational value of stamp collecting."

As is to be expected in an article of this kind the information is purely elemental, but is particularly valuable for that reason in directing the outside world to our hobby. A good description is given of the commemorative issues of the United States, explaining their historical significance, besides pointing out the historical and geographical interest in various foreign stamps.—Gossip.

I have a club of twelve now very much interested and wish to give and help them. I want to ask you to contribute to the Y. M. C. A. library here for which you will receive proper acknowledgement from the secretary, one of your Guides to Stamp Collecting and any other books, old or new, as you wish, shop worn or anything that will interest young stamp collectors. If some advanced collectors in lots of small towns would take a little interest and as part of the Y. M. C. A. start a club, help them with collections, get catalogues as part of the library, then they will do much to build collecting all over the country. They can do it as part of Y. M. C. A. today that will make a club interesting and have rooms and all rent free. If you know any place where I can get some small few variety packets given for propaganda purposes to start these boys and carry them along until they get a little beyond the adolescent stage I wish you will send along names, stamps or anything that will help. I will devote my time and some money to the cause. Hoping to hear from you with some books, old or second hand and some miscellaneous lots of cheap variety stamps, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,
GEO. T. BUSH, Bellefonte, Pa.

A. P. S. 249

The German postal chief has decreed that women postal employes during working hours must wear skirts eight inches below the knee. This, no doubt is to prevent interfering with the males.



INQUIRIES

It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over a issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

Charles Wilbur, Revere, Minn.: I have a Prince Edward Island cent, 1821, on one side a large and a small palm tree, and on the other a portrait of Queen Victoria. There is lettering under the palm trees. Can you tell me if this is of any value?

Ans.: This coin has no great value, in good condition about 10 cents.
M. S.

T. T. R., Bank Manager: I have in my possession the following: One half penny token bearing date during reign of one of the James' on the Scottish throne, and a copper coin minted in U. S. A. during the reign of George the second or third. Have these any value?

Ans.: The question is too vague to render an intelligent reply. All penny tokens of the James' and all copper coins minted in the U. S. A. "during the reign of George the second or third" are not of equal value. Clear descriptions, dates, etc. should be furnished when asking information about coins.
M. S.

Scott F. Redfield: Would you be so kind as to give me the names and addresses of all the U. S. stamp papers?

Ans.: Stamp papers in U. S. are born and die like infants in pest infested slums of a big city in the tropics. A list as it would look today would be incomplete and misleading by the time this gets into print. Many stamp papers have been started, many good intentions and much ability has been withered in this field. We have many stamp collectors, but not quite enough, it seems, to support some of the really good stamp papers, which from time to time have been started, but sooner or later had to quit for lack of support. The only two publications which lived through all the infantile attacks and grew up to healthy manhood, are "The Philatelic West" and "Stamp News."
M. S.

Joseph Payne, Somerset, Colo.: The stamps of U. S. which you mention, are yet too plentiful to be worth much. There are several Irish overprints from 1922. I have 4 different styles, 3 by the Provisional Government and 1 by the Free State. As I don't know which one you have in mind, I can only say that Scott quotes these stamps at about 15-20 cents.
M. S.

W. Parsons: Your letter sent me on a wild goose chase through the November issue of "West" without getting on the tracks of such an item. The nearest I came to it was my news item about an Oregon \$10.00 gold piece—not "ten old dollars" as you wrote—bringing \$1,425 at a New York auction. But I failed to connect that up with what you wrote about a Liverpool 1791

THE PHILATELIC WEST

halfpenny. Write any of the large coin dealers. Some of them advertise in "West." I can not very well give names and addresses every time, which would be free advertising at the expense of those I did not mention. If that Liverpool halfpenny is scarce, they will buy it. If one was sold for \$1.00 at auction, this might be taken as indicative of its value. M. S.

N. B. Callin: No coin has anything like a "market value." It is always how much I am willing to take, and you willing to pay, which determines the value of a coin. If your cent is scarce, a collector of our early cents will no doubt pay you a good price for it. The so-called "Catholic Dollar Bill" is just imaginary bunk and nothing else. This has been explained once in these columns, where a statement on the subject by the Secretary of the Treasury was quoted. The country is full of these dollar bills, and they are good to have, all right, but are worth only 100 cents—no more. M. S.

S. A. Bakken, Menomonie, Wis.: I suggest that you advertise your stamp collection in "West," which surely will bring you in touch with buyers. M. S.

Harry C. Burns, Niagara Falls, N. Y.: An ad in "West" would most likely bring you the desired information. I am unable to aid you here. M. S.

C. J. Cooper, Honolulu, Hawaii: Try writing coin dealers, whose names and addresses you will find in this and other issues of "West," or advertise your wants in this magazine. By doing so you will soon get what you are seeking. M. S.

Willbert W. Bishoff, Ottawa, Kansas: I have a German 1 pfenning piece of 1913, counterstamped 10. I enclose a drawing. I have had hundreds of these little coins, but this is the first one I have seen thus stamped. Can you give me any information regarding same?

Ans.: I have never seen a similar piece, and the only solution I can offer is that perhaps it was counterstamped thus during the German inflation, and made to circulate for 10 pfennig. M. S.

O. A. Lindblad, Alta, Iowa: I have a double headed U. S. 2c postage stamp. What is such a stamp worth now?

Ans.: The description is too vague. I have never heard of a double headed stamp yet. M. S.

Alexander Campbell: I have a double struck Lincoln cent. It this of very exceptional value.

Ans.: Yet, anyone collecting such freak coins will very likely pay you a good price for it. M. S.

P. V. Brown, Gainesville, Fla.: Sometime ago someone advertised in West for books pertaining to President William McKinley. I have a fine book on the life of President McKinley, memorial edition and if you know of anyone who would be interested or the name of party who advertised I will appreciate your advising me at your earliest convenience.

Ans.: I regret to say that I am unable to furnish the desired address now. A good way is to advertise the book in "West." M. S.

Colin E. Piper, Caldwell, N. J.: Can you tell me the number of U. S. Panama-Pacific gold dollars coined in 1915?

Ans.: Of the gold dollar there was coined 25,034 pieces, quarter eagle 10,017, \$50.00 30,190, half dollar 60,000. M. S.

Q.: How many ounces of silver are there in a United States silver dollar? J. N.

A.: A United States silver dollar weighs 412.5 grains (standard weight).

HOW TO TELL UNITED STATES IMITATIONS.

The first two government stamps of the United States are not so frequently met with now as they were before the war, and the ability to distinguish between the originals and the government imitations, sometimes called "reprints," is not so likely to be called into play by the young collector, since the unused originals have risen to \$25 each for the 5c, and \$100 for the 10c.

The best descriptions of the differences are found in specialized United States catalogue from which we quote:

The letters R. W. H. E. at the bottom of each stamp are less distinct on the reprints than on the originals.

Five cent. On the originals the left side of the white shirt frill touches the oval on a level with the top of the F of "Five." On the originals it touches the oval about on a level with the top of the figure "5."

(One may even more readily recognize the difference in the shirt frill ending almost straight in the original, but curved inwards in the reprint.)

Ten cent. On the reprints the eyes have a sleepy look, the line of the mouth is straighter, and in the curl of the hair near the left cheek is a strong black dot, while the originals have only a faint one.

(The shading on the collar is always readily recognizable; in the originals the white collar is quite distinct from the coat collar, while in the imitations the white collar is so heavily shaded it is scarcely distinguishable from the collar of the coat.)—Stamp Lover.

Mr. Gustave Hamil of Wichita, Kansas, is completing his plans to leave for France. Mr. Hamil is a "young" collector—only 62 years young. He spends his time playing with stamps—spending his summers in Paris and winters in good old Sunny Kansas. Mr. Hamil worked on the railroads down here in southeast Kansas in the good old early days—and claims the distinction of tamping ties with less dirt and more grace than anyone in the game. Mr. Hamil is a general collector, trying hard right now to complete his French Colonial sections.

Mr. L. L. Varner another general collector resides at Independence, Kas. Mr. Varner exhibited his Nyassa section at the S. E. Kansas fair last year—walking away with the blue ribbon 'neverything. Mr. Varner says if you don't think Nyassa is a good country to collect just try and complete it. He is still shaking the bushes for several numbers which he claims just don't seem to "be" at all. He also states that there are about half a dozen numbers which took a nice jump last year in price, "raising" from about 8c to \$3.00 each.

Mr. Roy Baughman is another Kansas collector, he is attending school at Lawrence this year. Mr. Baughman is strong for Kansas precancels—and according to those who have looked over his collection—is about the best collection of Kansas precancels in existence.—Point Pleasant Philatelist.

DRESS UP YOUR COLLECTION.

Men all over the world are realizing more and more the necessity of having a beautiful album in which to mount their collections. Loose leaf blank albums have taken the front rank for good collections with old collectors.

Why? A blank album enables a man to work out an original plan of mounting; it enables him to mount more than one copy of a variety without spoiling the appearance of the page. The album is never out of date, being blank and capable of taking more pages at any time.

NEWFOUNDLAND PICTORIALS

I may say that the 24 cents stamp of 1923 issue is much the scarcest, as only 25,000 were printed. This stamp is well worth picking up at more than twice catalogue, as the quantity is very small for a stamp of face value corresponding to 25c.

"The next best stamp of the set is the 9 cent of which there were 50,000. I believe that there were 100,000 printed of the 6 cent and a similar number of 11 cent.

"Although a great many more were printed of the 20 cent value, the majority of these did service as duty stamps on customs entries.

"None of the new issue are likely to prove as scarce as the 24 cent of the 1923 set, as the first order given the printers was for fifty thousand sets."

A STAMP ERROR MADE PERMANENT.

One way in which a new issue can be made more interesting to philatelists has just been demonstrated by the Navarino Centenary stamps of Greece. The 5 drachmae stamp was issued originally with the title "Sir Codrington," but the authorities have now provided a supply of stamps with the revised title "Sir Edward Codrington."

Did they withdraw the "Sir Codrington" stamps? Not a bit of it. As apparently they could not make up their minds which they preferred, both versions have been put on sale; so stamp collectors may now take their choice.

Navarino was the battle that settled once and for all the independence of Greece. It seems a pity that so decisive an affair should be commemorated by so remarkable an instance of indecision.—Bazar.

VENEZUELA LINDBERGH POSTMARK

The much advertised Lindbergh and two French flying men, Costes and Le Brix, recently visited Caracas. Fortunately there was not time to prepare a special postage stamp for them, but the occasion was literally and metaphorically marked by a distinctive postal obliteration, reading "Correos de Venezuela—Bienvenida—Lindbergh (or the other fellows) and date, January 30th for Lindbergh and January 19th for the others.—Stamp Collecting.

MALTA.

A surprise stamp is the 6d current King George overprinted in two lines "Air Mail" for use on mail for Iraq, Persia, Northeast Arabia, Northwest India by way of Egypt.—Roesler News.

One who really loves his stamps will find in them an endless source of amusement and real companionship in his leisure moments. Taking them as a whole, stamp collectors are a companionable lot. Nothing delights the average collector more than showing his treasures to a fellow enthusiast and many real and lasting friendships have been made.

No boy can collect stamps intelligently without absorbing a fund of knowledge on all sorts of subjects. To many schoolboys geography is a dry-as-dust subject, but if a boy is a stamp lover he learns geography easily and with pleasure, and because he is vitally interested.

Poland has honored Mme. Curie by having one of the country's stamps bear the likeness of the co-discoverer of radium.

PRECANCEL NOTES.—By A. F. GAMBER.

Prospective and beginning collectors often ask, "What shall I collect?" The field looks so large to them that they are hesitant about beginning. Perhaps a few suggestions may be in order. Why not start out with your own state? If you have lived in it very long, you are somewhat familiar with its various cities and their industries, and if you have paid very much attention to precancels, you must know about which ones use precancels regularly. Specialization on a state or better still, a group of states, is participated in by quite a few collectors. The only drawback to it is, that after a period of intense collecting activity, the collector reaches the point where new ones come in so slowly that his interest flags, he looks about for new worlds to conquer. This drawback is peculiar to all stages of specialization, only the general collector is immune from this. Collecting of certain cities is also popular with some. Some start out with those cities of over 500,000 population, and concentrate on them for a while. There are plenty of them, you'll be surprised how many when you come to look them up, they'll keep you busy for quite a while. Then as your pages fill up, you can take down the bars and admit those above say 300,000 population.

This is an automatically expanding system of collecting, and has much to commend it. Don't you think that just because a city has so many people and so many industries, its precancels are easily picked up. Some are, but when you get a set all complete you've accomplished something indeed. I know of one man who collects the eleven largest cities, the city in which he was born, a small one, and the one in which his wife was born. Quite a combination. It keeps him busy too.

Another angle is that of collecting only electro precancels, that is, those overprinted with steel plates only. This is commendable in that the collector is not bothered with indecipherable handstamps which lend themselves to doubles, ups and downs, etc. Coil stamps precancelled in city types are very popular just now, a new and complete catalog of them has just appeared which has given them a decided impetus. The collection of the odd denominations is popular. By this I mean the 9, 11, 13, 14, 17, 25's. Most of these items are decidedly hard to find, especially the 14c and 17c, the latter of which is probably the scarcest denomination between the half cent and one dollar inclusive.

These odd denominations are the good ones, the ones that are put in separate lots at auction because they are so widely sought after. The new 13c is by no means as scarce or hard to acquire as was the old 13c, many cities are using it regularly which did not precancel it at all in the old set.

The collection of Commemoratives is not as popular as it once was. When the Victories, Pilgrims, first aers and black Hardings were current, these stamps were all the rage. This led to a great deal of speculation, many collectors and vestpocket dealers got the bad habit of asking clerks to precancel these stamps for them, or worse still, of taking these stamps to the post offices and asking said clerks to precancel them for them. This practice reached such proportions at one time that the Post Office Department was seriously considering the promulgation of a ruling making the possession of any precancelled stamps without a permit, an offense, which would have meant the absolute destruction of the hobby. Fortunately, saner minds came to the rescue, and though these damnable practices are still carried on by some nitwits who value a nickel above a good name, it is distinctly frowned upon.

WHY PEOPLE COLLECT STAMPS.

As a slight suggestion of what part of the answer might well be, we quote an extract from a chapter we wrote elsewhere, in the year 1926. It reads as follows:

Why do people collect stamps? The exact answer to this question has always been elusive. That there must be good and sufficient reasons why people collect is evident from the popularity of Philately throughout the world among men of business and profession, men who would not be satisfied to make it a serious hobby, often the hobby of a lifetime, if it did not possess recreative or intellectual qualities above the average.

Man's first interest in stamps is kindled at an early age when, in their commonest forms, they are the most easily obtained collectable objects. Throughout his life they are with him. They form an essential feature of modern organized society, and their purpose and uses are understood by all. Acquisitiveness is a universal human trait, so also is the desire to have some pastime or hobby. Philately supplies not only a form of collecting but also a working hobby in which considerable time can be spent and the necessary relaxation from every-day affairs obtained. The usual comment made by the philatelic Philistine is that stamps have no intrinsic merit or beauty. Why not? What is intrinsic merit? Much of the merit of things that men collect is created by the mere fact that they are so collected. A beautiful picture of a classic period may be said to possess intrinsic beauty and merit. But what about the delightful thirteenth or fourteenth century "primitive," its drawing all askew, its perspective non-existent, but the whole vibrant with a striving to achieve? That "ugly" primitive will move the true picture collector as no mere "beautiful" picture will succeed in doing. The true joy of the collector is the tracing out of the history and development of his subject, and he and his fellow collectors alone are capable of judging whether that particular subject has intrinsic merit or beauty.

The stamp collector may well claim that many of the beautiful old issues possess intrinsic beauty, and that many designs possess intrinsic merit in the light of their suitability for the purpose for which they were intended; an ugly stamp may be full of philatelic merit as typifying an early postal endeavor in some far off land, while in almost every stamp he will find historical value and technical interest.

Unlike many other objects, postage stamps are eminently collectable. They are capable of an exact classification and lend themselves readily to an intensive study by mere reason of their small size, and by the ease with which every part can be seen and understood. For the same reasons their comparative subdivision and correlation is easily carried out. This adaptability to an exact classification is a very important factor in the popularity of stamps, and outweighs many of the more spectacular advantages possessed by other forms of collecting. To take an example: The majority of old pictures are described and sold as "by or attributed to" a certain artist, the allocation of a work to any particular painter being a matter of personal opinion; similarly, the exact age, quality and value of a piece of early Chinese porcelain might vary enormously in different men's minds. Stamps being, in most cases, printed from definitive dies, stones, or plates, any divergencies from the normal type, other than those inherent in the process of manufacture, can quickly be detected, so that the risk of forgery is re-

duced to the minimum, and the philatelist can assure himself quite confidently that the objects in his collection are all that they purport to be.

We have given one reason why the size of stamps has an effect on their popularity as collectable objects. Philately derives another enormous benefit from this small size of its subjects; the benefit of a sociable hobby. A man may take his stamps with him wherever he will—in his pocket, under his arm, or in his trunk. When he meets a fellow collector in those places where philatelists foregather, he can match his collection against that of others; he can taste the joy of proud possession of some envied piece or of some new fact discovered; he can know the disappointment of efforts forestalled and of a collection surpassed, but he also knows the spur of a friendly rivalry which makes his hobby worth ten of those which a man must pursue within the solitude of his own walls.

These are no mean advantages for a hobby to possess.—*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.*

WHEN STAMPS ARE "A HUNDRED."

The Antique Dealers' Association exhibition, to be held in London next May, will admit nothing as an antique that is less than 100 years old. This has long been the accepted definition of antiques from the point of view of the connoisseur, and consequently postage stamps have not yet qualified for inclusion, and generally speaking they do not come within the ken of the antique dealer. This attitude is responsible for the deprecatory manner in which antique dealers in general regard stamps which, in comparison with much in their stock, are extremely modern. But within fourteen years from now stamps will have started to become antiques in the accepted sense, and from that time forward we predict a rise in the classic issues such as has never been seen before, a rise that will be reflected throughout the whole philatelic world. Never was there such an opportunity as today to acquire specimens that in a few short years will be nigh unobtainable. Thank goodness there are still a few people who do not believe in the investment value of stamps. Let us get hold of theirs before they wake up.

Stamp collecting is a deep science of the highest educational value. It combines geography with history, teaches accuracy and neatness, necessitates sharp observation and a good memory for saving purposes at last but not least, it keeps the collector busy at home or in a stamp club, at any rate out of trouble. Stamps are wonderful helpmates to teachers and parents; they are valuable not only from the moral, but also from the financial standpoint. A stamp collector's magazine is better reading matter for youngsters than the perusal of some modern magazines which carry articles on unwanted subjects.

MOST INTERESTING HOBBY—START A STAMP COLLECTION.

Stamp collecting with its comopolitan nature affords a rich opportunity of learning and the securing of information. It awakens and keeps alive the desire to learn more about the world, governments, people and other aspects of the countries from which the stamps emanate. It enlarges and broadens one's views. The collector also finds it a great resource in moments that would otherwise hang heavily on his hands—a legitimate and bracing relief to mind and body otherwise overworked.—F. B. Eldredge card.

PHILATELY'S DEBT TO COINS—STRONG AFFINITY BETWEEN COLLECTING STAMPS AND COINS—DESIGNS FROM ANCIENT CURRENCY.

Between the collecting of postage stamps and the collecting of coins there exists a strong affinity. Both coins and stamps are a form of currency, and, as such, bear the same mark of authority. Thus, with the passing of time the head of the ruler which was formerly the distinguishing feature of the national coinage has come also to adorn the faces of our postage labels.

In the case of the present British currency, at least, the portrait of the King as struck upon the coinage of the realm is identical with that appearing on the contemporary stamps. On this account alone it is obvious that the stamp collector and the numismatist must frequently meet upon common ground.

But the connection between philately and numismatics goes much deeper than that, for on several historic occasions stamps have actually supplanted small currency, notably during the Civil War, United States stamps of small denomination were enclosed in small cases with mica fronts and circulated as a substitute for coinage during a considerable period.

More recently, in the early days of the Great War, a somewhat similar expedient was adopted by the Russian government. Special printings were made from the plates of certain stamps of the Romanoff series, then current, upon thick cardboard, with an inscription on the back to the effect that they were to circulate upon an equal basis with the small silver currency.

Moreover, the philatelist and the numismatist will find a mutual interest in the extensive group of stamp designs which have either been directly reproduced from coins or owe their inspiration to numismatic sources. For instance, it is common knowledge that the delicate Queen's head of the first English penny stamp was adapted from a medal engraved by William Wyon to commemorate Queen Victoria's visit to the Guildhall after her coronation. The same diademed profile figures upon the greater number of postage stamps issued in her reign.

On one of the new postage stamps of Cyprus appeared the somewhat bizarre device of an ancient silver coin of Amthrus and the stamps of the other Hellenic countries. Crete and Greece issue stamps that are rich in classical subjects freely adapted from early coinage.

Practically all of the postage stamps issued by the autonomous government of Crete in the years 1900-05 were based on reproductions of ancient coins selected by M. Svoronas from his monumental work, "Numismatique de la Crete Ancienne." The figure of Hermes adjusting his winged sandals (1 lepton) originally graced a coin of Sybrita, and the head of Hera a silver 2-drachmai piece of Gnosso.

A beautiful coin of Phaistos supplied the motif of the 1-drachme design showing Talos, the mythical guardian of old Crete, whilst the effigy of Minos, the law giver, upon the 2-dr. value is from a coin of Gnosso. The group of St. George and the Dragon as seen upon the highest value, 5 dr. is the same that was once associated with the British gold currency.

Numismatic motives are again in evidence in the designs of the Cretan stamps of 1905, the 5-lepta value showing Britomartis in the oak being taken from a coin of Gortyna. The allegory of Jupiter suckled by the bitch Cynosure is copied upon the 20-lepta stamp from a silver 2 drachme of Cydonia.

A triton on the 25 l. denomination is adapted from a silver coin of Itanos, and the head of Ariadne in a labyrinth on the 50 l. from one of Gnosso. The

classic legend of Europa and the Bull is preserved in the device of an ancient coin of Gortyna which constitutes the main feature of the 1 drachma design.

Coins of ancient Greece were the source of the curious figures that are found upon the Greek postage stamps of 1911-27, the head of Hermes being taken from a 2-drachmai coin of Sybrita (5th century B. C.), and that of Iris, his female counterpart in the service of the gods, from one of the same epoch. The figure of Hermes carrying the infant Arcas is likewise based upon a coin of Phenissus Arcadia (4th century B. C.).

Yet another example of stamps derived from coins occurs in a previous issue made at the time of the Olympic Games at Athens in 1906. Here we have Apollo casting the discus (from a 2-dr. coin of the island of Cos), and Nike, the goddess of the games, from one of Terrina.—Bazaar.

COLLECT EVERYTHING—By Wm. E. Shoudy.

Many collectors are scared away from the game and the interest derived from such when they see advertisements and stamps priced at high figures. I believe we could retain many collectors if they could be led to believe that by collecting everything that comes their way that just as much fun can be derived as though they were collecting rarities.

By everything that comes their way I mean for them to save a copy each of all singles that they pick up in the different hours of the day as well as retaining pairs each way—strips of three each way—blocks of four and larger strips or blocks if they desire. The writer has been doing such and finds that a very nice looking collection can be made of them, as well as getting a great kick out of picking up something new every day in the general day's mail.

By collecting everything as mentioned above, the collector who has not the means of spending any great amount of money on precancels can get just as much fun out of the game as the millionaire and he will be surprised how few duplicates he will have for exchange, but when such duplicates do begin to accumulate he will find ready exchange for them.—Bee.

\$450 FOR A STAMP.

A splendid collection of classic issues was sold at auction in London. One of the first very rare issues of Mauritius 1848, a 2d blue on blue paper with large margins, postmarked and dated on piece, fetched the big price of \$450, while an 1857 Ceylon 8d brown with large margins and lightly postmarked found a buyer at \$315.

A New Brunswick 1851 issue, 1s., dull mauve, sold at \$260.

The woodblock type of Cape of Good Hope also fetched good prices, catalogue figures being exceeded in many cases.

We have just received Yukon Airways & Exploration Co. Ltd. airmail stamp. The rather long title is in white letters on a solid blue background beneath which is a fine large monoplane cabin flyer. The stamp is lithograph. Size of special delivery. In each of the lower corners is a large 25 and between it is the word "cents." From the only copy we have on hand we would say it was printed in a strip as it is rouletted top and bottom and imperf at the sides. The company is now serving seven P. O.'s in the Home of the Elizzard in Canada near Alaska.—Roessler's News.

ANOTHER OF PHILATELY'S BENEFITS.

That serious study of stamps improves one's general knowledge is now an accepted fact and is well known to philatelists if not to the rest of mankind. That it improves one's powers of perception, particularly of small details, is not so well known, but it is a fact that anybody who studies his stamps closely and regularly will find, after a while, that this close application is used almost unconsciously when the philatelist turns to other subjects. Whether this is entirely an advantage, I am not sure, but personally I think it is.

In the realms of horticulture, for instance, the philatelist brings his trained brain to consider some flower, say a pansy. He immediately notices the familiar cat's face look and the dark streaks radiating from the center, also the general color. So does the Philistine, but that is as far as he ever gets. He is pleased with its general effect, says: "That is a pretty pansy," and passes on, unless, of course, he happens to be a pansy enthusiast. Not so our philatelist. He also sees many other beauties, the blending of the beautiful colors, the white velvet-like lip to the center of each of the five petals, the contrasting yellow of the stamens in the center of the flower.

Of course, there is another side to the picture. Your friend says: "That is a glorious bed of flame colored antirrhinums." You say: "Yes, but what a pity this plant is not the same shade and that plant is a little darker and that lighter, and so on." In fact, you could with your stampic eye make a whole page of shades!

You examine an apparently flawless carnation or rose on some show bench. People by the hundred pass, they all say: "How exquisite, perfect, etc." You, however, notice a slight tear on a petal, a blemish on another, a slightly shrivelled edge, etc. You cannot say perfect. But don't run away with the idea that this fault-finding is going to spoil all your pleasure in beautiful flowers. Not a bit of it; sooner or later you come to a bed or a flower that is faultless. You search, you examine, you pry and peep, and gradually the feeling comes over you that you are gazing at perfection; you cannot find a flaw. A feeling of ecstasy and bliss steals over you; you are enraptured, enchanted and could fall down and worship. The untrained observer could never feel anything of this. His emotions are superficial, he has not gone deeply, he cannot see the beauty lying there. You can, and you are delighted that you can; the disappointments of the flaws are forgotten. You realize a new world is opened to you, but philately will seldom get the credit, as the whole process is an unconscious one and is seldom traced back to its source, unless some accident shows one the track.

The power of seeing things is a wonderful gift, just as much as the power of appreciating the best music, best literature, etc. This power, in my opinion, is greatly increased by our science of philately, and thus adds one more to the numerous benefits it bestows on its students.—Stamp Lover.

Colonel Lindbergh made a flight over his old Airmail Route CAM No. 2 on February 20 and 21. Covers had a special cancellation of a horse-shoe around which were the words, "Lindbergs again flies the Air Mail." Honor to him. There are not many of this type around.

We would like to hear from our advertisers as to what results they are getting, or if they can suggest any way of improving the paper or helping on ads.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

WHY LINDY CARRIED MAIL.

Collectors were greatly enthused about the first mail ever carried officially in the Spirit of St. Louis. We don't blame them—Lindy was offered all kinds of money to carry mail from the very day that he hopped off from Curtis field to Europe but he was indifferent to money. Therefore, when he put three bags of mail in the cockpit of his famous plane in Dominican Republic it marked a big day in the history of air covers.

How and why this came about makes an interesting story and shows how one aviator influences another. The story takes in a brilliant circle of world-famed aviators.

We were in the cabin of the Leviathan with Clarence Chamberlain preparatory to his hopping off for the first ship-to-shore mail and we had with us a parcel of mail which Chamberlain was to carry. Down in the cabin was Clarence's first partner in the airplane business, B. F. R. When he heard what Clarence was paid for carrying this mail his eyes popped out, and he informed us that he was going to open up routes all through West Indies, and perhaps we could come to some sort of arrangement. He asked for information which we gave in some detail.

When he did open up the routes in Dominican Republic, Hayti, Virgin Islands and Cuba, he knew just how to handle the covers—with the possible exception that he made too many, running the quantity, 1,000, 2,000, and 4,000. The profits derived therefrom so encouraged him so that when his pal, Lindy, came down he had no trouble in convincing the Colonel that it would be quite all right to carry mail. When Lindbergh was in Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama, some of the collectors almost got down on their knees but the Colonel wouldn't carry mail. The initial shipment came through the pull of B. F. R., who caught on through his friend Chamberlain.—Roessler's News.

COLLECTOR AND STAMP EXHIBITS VS. THE COUNTY FAIR.

By Rev. Treverton Warren.

When in 1926 the Lee County, Iowa, Philatelic Society, with headquarters at Donnellson, Ia., was organized, it was with the understanding that once a year the society should hold an exhibit. This was for a threefold purpose: (1) to inspire the members by having something to work for; (2) to educate the public generally in philately, and (3) to gain new members. With this end in view, a committee was appointed to have the matter in hand, and to make all necessary arrangements. As the committee were inexperienced, and not by any means advanced collectors, it seemed to them that the task was well nigh impossible. Such a thing had never been attempted in that part of Iowa, and according to some very wise people, never could be done. However, the writer of this article, and the president of the society (R. S. Ruske) took courage and approached the fair association and asked for their help and co-operation. They were enthusiastic and allotted space in the Art Hall, and also a sheet in the annual fair book. Having got this start, the next question was how to finance the thing, and give attractive prizes. The financial condition of the society was not such as to undertake the task of awarding prizes, so an appeal was made to several leading firms in the county, and through their generosity, enough gifts were received to make the thing attractive to the members. Certain rules and regulations were drawn up, and submitted to the fair board, and being endorsed by them were print-

ed in their book. The secretary, Rev. T. Warren, was put in charge, and things began to assume shape. The members became interested, and all began working hard to get their exhibits in shape. Each member's collection was graded and the exhibit so arranged that each member must compete within his own grade. The grades were: Beginner, junior, senior and veteran, and the grades were determined by the number of stamps in each individual collection. All exhibits were made under the entry rules of the fair association. Cards were printed large enough to hold about 50-70 stamps, and printed with "Entry numbers," "Grade," "Class" and "Subject," as for Example: Entry number would be 126, or such number as was on the exhibition entry card; Grade, Junior; Class, United States; Subject, Commemoratives. This made the work of the judges so much easier. These cards were handed to each member, who was limited to eight, and could not enter in more than three classes in his particular grade. The cards when arranged were placed in a good position in the Art Hall, and was a very popular exhibit during the fair. Some member of the society was in charge, and explained the exhibit to those who were interested, and it certainly did keep that official busy. The exhibit was certainly a decided success, and many visitors from other fair associations wished they had a similar exhibit. The beauty of holding the exhibit was that the crowd was there, good and ample space was provided, and the stamps were well protected, a guard being in the building at night. From this initial experience, the committee emerged much wiser, and as a result of their experience, a larger and better exhibit is being arranged for 1928. This humble effort could be duplicated in many a county fair, and only needs a little bit of sagacity, grit and determination to make it a success. The secretary will be glad to answer any inquiries, providing a stamped or self-addressed envelope is sent. That the venture was a success was indicated by the request by the fair board for another exhibit this year; the amount of people who were always seen around the booths, and the number of new members gained.—Mekeel's.

Bright's "A. B. C." Catalogue of British Empire, 1928, 14th edition, 454 pages. Price \$1, post free.

Collectors interested in British Empire issues will need this latest list. As usual the publishers have spared no pains to bring the present edition up to the worthy standard of previous years. All prices are revised to date and include many important changes in the later issues. Special attention is drawn to the new lists of Australian Commonwealth, Arabia (Hedjaz and Nejd), Transjordan and N. W. Pacific Islands, as well as the extensive additions to the list of varieties of watermark and the usual instructive footnotes.

The price of this latest catalogue should also commend itself to all collectors who desire an inexpensive supplement to the earlier lists.

POSTCARD COLLECTION.

Austin, Texas.—Pictures of the city hall or other scenes in home towns are being collected by University of Texas students for what promises to be the largest postcard collection in the state. It will be kept in the university library.—Sent by Milliken

Get two subscriptions, get your own Free and all get one X Ad.

ON CARE IN BUYING STAMPS.

The wise profit by other people's mistakes, and as all philatelists are wise, perhaps some slight profit may be gleaned from a little experience of mine. Stamp collectors are as keen as other people in telling of the "bargains" they "pick up" during the course of their collecting, but do not seem quite so anxious to place on record their failures, i.e., bad "specs."

This is an account of a bargain that wasn't. "A man who never made a mistake never made anything," is a soothing sop to our vanity when we make mistakes, and that quotation soothes me in this case! The Falkland Islands stamps have always interested me in a passive sort of way, and the higher values I consider among the most handsome stamps of modern line engraving. I had been studying a catalog list of Falkland Is., so when I saw the 5/- K. G. in an exchange packet priced \$1.50, I immediately remembered seeing it catalogued at \$4.25 (1925), No. 49. To verify it I looked up No. 49 and saw it was O. K. "Ah!" I exclaimed, "Some bargain!" and transferred the gem to "mine" album.

Later, having nothing else to do, I opened my album at Falkland Is., and did a little (pardonable, I think) gloating! Presently I began to wonder why this 5/- stamp had risen so in value. Probably a new issue on script paper, I thought. Once more I referred to the catalogue. No, there is no 5/- script. I go carefully backwards. What's this? No. 52, 5/- purple, 7/6. Why, mine is really purple not brown-lake, when you come to examine it. What an ass not to look more carefully. Well, I am not done, but I do not think I should have bought it if I had not thought it such a bargain. I've paid top price as usual. "My swans are always geese." Which all goes to prove that one cannot be too careful when looking up stamps in catalogues, even when one thinks oneself experienced. When a "bargain" is found, it is a safe plan to be very suspicious. It is not often the other fellow is giving things away.—Stamp Lover.

AUCTION PLATES.

The wonderful range of stamps which continually pass through the auction rooms both in England and on the continent afford the collector ample pictorial reference to the rarities of the world, and the number of people who are collecting these plates is rapidly growing. To the specialist they are in many cases of particular value, for they illustrate postmarks or settings that are of great interest to him in his studies, and enable him to have in his collection pictorial reproductions of the gems reposing in other albums than his own. In years to come it will be to the auction plates of today that reference may well be made to prove the existence, even, of items that are ever passing into the realm of things unattainable to the majority. Those who collect auction plates today are wise in their generation.—Philatelic Magazine.

THREE NATIONS PRINT LINDBERGH STAMPS.

With the printing of a "Lindbergh Stamp" in Cuba, the total of postage stamps commemorating the feats of the young American flyer was swelled to four, all printed by different nations.

The regular Cuban air mail stamp, printed in red and surcharged "Lindbergh Febrero 1928," is now available. There were only 500,000 such stamps printed by Cuba.

Two commemorative stamps were printed by Panama, but both are poorly lithographed and have a mass of detail. The values are two and five centavos.

A "COVER" COLLECTION.—By R. D. Everard.

Since starting a collection of original covers, which was begun about two years ago, I have managed to get together a collection of over 4,000. No great rarities are in this collection, I admit, as the owner is very far from being a wealthy man. The following list of covers in my collection may interest readers, and may, I hope, tend to increase interest in a form of collecting which seems in my humble opinion to be much neglected:

Newfoundland: 1866, 5c brown seal, on cover, with red St. John's, etc., postmarks. 5c dark blue, Scott's No. 48, block of four, single and also a pair of 10c, No. 49, all on one cover to St. John's, N. B. 1866, 12c pair on thin paper, No. 27a, on cover to England.

Canada: 3d beaver on laid paper and another on wove, both on same cover, from Guelp to Buffalo, N. Y. 1859, 1c, strip of three and a pair on cover. 1864, 2c and 5c beaver, used on cover (registered from Montreal to Ottawa). 5c beaver, three strips of three, singles, etc., on cover. 1859-64, 10c, 10c and 5c beaver, two of each used together on covers. 1859-64, 12½c, four singles, two with red packet marks on covers. 1859-64, 17c, on cover to London, Eng. 1868, 1c brown, No. 22, and 5c beaver, No. 15, used on cover to Boston, late date of use, August, 1868. 1668, 2c green; 1870, 6c green and 3c rose, on registered cover from N. S. to Marne. 5c, large head, No. 37, on cover. 1868, 15c red lilac, strip of three, and two pairs on pieces and single on cover, also 1885 15c and strip of four 1898 1c, Maple Leaf on genuine cover. 1868, 12½c blue on cover to England. 1870, 3c rose, strip of five and single 1c yellow on cover to Guadeloupe. 6c, small head, pair, on cover, to St. Jago de Cuba. 10c lilac, small head, on cover to Cuba, mauve Sydney, N. S. cancellation. 3c with scarce House of Assemblies cancellation, one in mauve and one in black, on covers to Amhurstburg. 6c No. 44 and 8c No. 48. This last is said to be very scarce with this cancellation. 20c No. 37, block of four on cover. 1859-90, No. 42, blocks of four and six, on covers, and about 275 other Canadian covers.

U. S. A.: 1847, 5c on cover with red bar cancellation. 1857-60, 3c and 12c on cover, used domestically. 1857-60, 3c block of four, on cover. 1861-62 issues, 3c with Fredericksburg, Va., and Steamboat cancellation. 10c blue, Cincinnati pmk. on cover. 10c grilled, No. 96 and 2c 1869 issue, on cover to England. 12c grilled, No. 97, on cover to England. 1861, 3c and 12c on cover to England. 24c, No. 70, on cover to England. 24c, No. 78 and 78b, four on covers, one with blue Champaign, Ill., and paid.—Stamp Collecting.

Brooklyn Stamp Club has moved in new quarters with a lease, 306 Fulton St., Brooklyn, one and a half blocks from Borough Hall and the same from all Subways, always pleased to see visitors. Meetings every Monday night, President, R. M. Osborne; secretary, George W. Wagener; treasurer, Wm. J. Coleman; sales manager, G. H. Fabian Jr.

Ridgewood Stamp Club meets every Wednesday night at 702 Seneca Ave. (Seneca Ave. L Station). President, H. E. King; secretary, T. Schmitz; sales manager, G. H. Fabian Jr., 666 Onderdonk St. Visitors always welcome.

We have noticed the "Good Will" covers being knocked by a certain malcontent whose motto is, "If I don't get the covers, they are no good." Wise collectors will secure these and not listen to a barking dog, no matter how weak the bark.—Stampology.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

STAMPS AND POLITICS.

Postage stamps have their fates as well as the poet's little books, but it is very seldom that they find their fates in party politics. It is true that there was once a postmaster-general of New Brunswick who placed his own head instead of Queen Victoria on a new issue, and only averted a political crisis by bowing to the wrath of the outraged colonists and resigning. But the "stamped crisis" that lately faced the German government was never likely to end so seriously. The last set of stamps issued bore the heads of famous Germans. There was a conservative majority on the postal board, and on the most popular stamp—the penny stamp which is used for inland postage—they succeeded in placing the head of Frederick the Great. Nothing could have given more offense to true republicans and anti-Prussians, and when the government refused to withdraw the stamp they boycotted it and used two halfpenny ones, which bear the head of Schiller, instead. Now the price of inland postage is to be raised and the penny stamp will go out of use in favor of a new value. The conservatives wanted Frederick's head transferred to the new stamp, but the government was not for taking the risk of paying Old Fritz a second compliment, and the board has decided that the honor shall fall to Beethoven. And so there will be no stamp crisis, at least until postage rates change again. After all, one of the minor advantages of monarchy is that these difficulties do not arise.—Sent by Sam Bushnell.

MEDLEY OF STAMPIC FOREIGN NEWS.—By O. T. Hartman.

At a recent London auction a block of four of the 24c 1870 fetched the record price of £115, about \$560. Over 30 times catalogue for each stamp single. Advice: Save your blocks of 24c.

A large cancellation die was used at Rastatt, Germany, measuring 100 millimeter through, during the inflation period to cancel the carpet size use of postage, covering many stamps on one procedure, saving time and labor.

Of the Rentenpfennig issue of 1923 the 50 pfennig value has been withdrawn, and remainders burned. The 100 pfennig of the same issue and 60 and 80 pf. Stephan to be used up on parcelpost (here the note: All the parcelpost stubs hold the stamps. Later to be sold by the Gov.) The sale of the eagle series to be forced to clear the deck for the picture series for general use.

A Fish stamp. In Ethonia in May was a "Fish" week for the loveable purpose to increase the consumption of domestic fish. Propaganda stamps were issued. This would mean nothing to the postage stamp collector but the originality was that these labels had to be put on the front side of the cover and cancelled in conjunction with the postage by a special cancellation mark.

There was a kitchen-post in Hamburg several hundred years ago. Interesting would be if a philatelist would assume the explanation of how so many issues derived their nickname.

Belgium intends in 1930 to issue a series with the pictures of celebrities.

Portugal still sticks to her "Ceres" type. The long usage wore many dies, so the expedient to retouch them. The consequence is that now you can have the pleasure to look for type two.

Honduras suffers for years on shortage of postage stamps, so provisional stamps are produced. Nothing strange about that. Other countries are of-

fenders also, but the agreement with the postal union is 475 samples must be delivered to Berne, Switzerland, the headquarters.

So the story goes that Honduras ran short one day and used the expedient to apply to a small remainder of the 6c 1915 the simple procedure surcharging it "1926." Of course the issue did not last long, then somebody remembered that the Postal Union was overlooked. The local post office kept quiet, but the argus eyes of the Postal Union administration discovered this discrepancy and commended to correct this. Great excitement in Honduras. They searched, and lucky enough they discovered the waste of that particular issue. More luck, enough to fill the order of 475 pieces. The printer set to work to surcharge them with 1926, naturally the type differed some, even the printer's devil got his hand in. The first row became 1927. To correct this the expedient was used to surcharge the same with 1926. The day was saved. Berne became its full quota, and the possessor of a bunch of waste rarities to be found over in days to come. Then remember this yarn.

That a letter could pass an enemy censor during the war proves following: A letter was mailed in L. German South West Africa in 1915 to a party in Langenargen, Lake Constance, Switzerland. It bore the "Passed by Censor" and arrived in Switzerland unmolested. The local postman must have smiled. Langenargen is on Lake Constance alright but happened to be on the German side.

That funny incidents can happen, almost unbelievable was a parcel post shipment of artificial grapes from Czechoslovakia to Greece. The Greek custom prohibited the entry on account that grapes were forbidden to enter the country. That these grapes were artificial made no difference.

Free translations, principally of the Hamburg *Fremdenblatt*.

WHAT IS A SPECIALIST?

The specialist knows more about the brain than the ordinary family doctor, simply because he has studied and concentrated on that particular branch of his profession. Therefore, he is known as a specialist. It would be equally right to call him a concentrator (if there is such a word).

So it is in philately. The stamps of Norway are my particular pets. I have studied and read more about them than all the rest of the foreign section of the catalogue put together. I know more about them than most general collectors. It is my job, but my original research is nil and is likely to be, through lack of opportunity and eyesight. Still, I call myself a specialist in the stamps of Norway, not in any boasting manner, but simply because it describes me correctly.—Stamp Lover.

INVISIBLE STAMPS.

Every now and then we are told that there will be a new postage stamp to celebrate something or other. There was one for the American Legion's visit. Now there is one in connection with a campaign in favor of the prevention of tuberculosis. The odd thing is that the ordinary person who goes into a post office to send off his letter never sees these stamps, which are soon quoted by dealers at a premium. No doubt he is not meant to. No doubt the authorities have discovered that there are enough people to buy up the whole issue of ever new stamp and not use any of it for postal purposes, as long as the issue is sufficiently limited for it to have a collector's value.—Daily paper.

STAMP COLLECTORS ENTERTAIN.

The Wayne Stamp Society meetings are held every Thursday evening, always some 40 active members and visiting collectors and juveniles attend. Stamp discussions, auction sales, exchanging are held, besides stamp dealers are represented showing new things. The boys all work together for the betterment of philately amongst all.

Among them are many collectors who have fine collections. Some are general collectors, other specialists. Again those who are now following airplane and first day cover issues as they appear.

Stamp collecting today is considered one of the best indoor amusements there is, full of fascination, one tries to outdo the other. There are no two collections alike. Strange to say, but it's true. The east side has now a splendid organized club with a membership of more than 60 residing in all parts of Detroit.

Last Thursday evening was set for a get together in the new club rooms. Seated at the head of the tables were the officers of the club. President A. C. Butzen acted as toastmaster, introduced Clyde Jackson as master director of music and singing.

Calling on the members for short talks on club matters and experiences during their collecting days. Following spoke during the evening: Messrs. Jackson, Clarke, Meyer, Koslowski, Carter, Sommerhoff, Boers, Babcock and Keller. John Jungwirth, charter member, also said a few good things about the club.

Chas. Brisley, president of the Michigan Stamp club, congratulated the club on its fine showing and good fellowship existing among the members and wishes the club success with hopes that it would have the largest membership of any club in the country in three years to come.

Anyone interested in stamps is welcome to join—there are no dues—so come.—Sent by Hefan W. Boers.

Having been denied an opportunity to go to school, don't despair. Buy a stamp book and start a collection and an education may be gained, a broader one, possibly, than in the schoolroom.

That is brief is the opinion of Sig. I. Rothchild of Freeport, L. I. But to Mr. Rothchild's way of thinking, mere collecting will not suffice—it should be done solely with its educational value as a background.

To illustrate this idea Mr. Rothchild had gotten together a unique collection which he believes to be the first stamp miscellany of its kind. While he has made stamps a study on a scientific basis for 28 years, this collection has been assembled in a few months, and he feels that 99 per cent of the material used is well within the reach of the pocketbook of the youthful collector.

The collection is alphabetically arranged, beginning with "Advertising," illustrating its possibilities on postage stamps, and finishing up with what stamps can teach in the way of zoology. It embodies 79 subjects of educational value, not counting sub-divisions of types and historical matter.

Some of the titles Mr. Rothchild has arranged are humor, freaks, engineering, fish and reptiles, heraldry, sports, ships, etc.

Mr. Rothchild will lecture in Plainfield, N. J. on the subject "Educational Value of Postage Stamps," at all schools and Tepper Brothers stationery department.—Miss Cotrell.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

All postage stamps are our friends, but some we like better than others. I know why I like a stamp. Why do you like one? Ever stop to reason it out? Your ad inserted in this Journal is guaranteed a world-wide circulation, and the results would make you a regular advertiser.

Chile is one of the few countries who issue straightforward issues of postage stamps, and has been doing it for over 70 years.

Brazil is issuing three new stamps as Coffee Commemoratives.

The Philadelphia Bulletin states that in that city there are 7,000 collectors, ranging from 8 to 80 years.

IF YOU WANT RESULTS, try an ad in this Paper. Tell It, Sells It. Make this a red letter day by sending West your ads, NOW

The way to make the best of any collection is to make it bigger with coins and stamps offered in West.

For the information of beginners, imperf, means imperforate and not imperfect; in many cases the latter term would be equally appropriate.

Others Find It Pays big to advertise in West. It should pay you, too.

Uncle Sam offers the mails; we offer the space; our advertisers offer the opportunities. Have you the push to take advantage?

Commemorative stamps are despised by many purists, but those who are interested in seeing their stamps appreciate in value will note a steady rise in the quotations for many such.

A special stamp bearing the figure of the famous dramatist, Ibsen, will be issued by the Swedish government. In addition to the figure of Ibsen a neat reproduction of his autograph will appear.

Go now around the garret and the old cupboards. There are many things, you'll find, that you will be glad to dispose of. Then enlist the aid of West.

Pennsylvania has the unique distinction of having within its borders a specimen of practically every mineral found in America.

Keener and keener is the interest growing towards the collecting of air-mail stamps. Anyone feeling inclined to pay more than a fleeting attention to these aeros should do so now.

For the privilege of issuing notes the Bank of England pays the British government \$900,000 a year, plus a percentage of certain profits.

West should average a reading by five people each copy and more if you pass it on to your neighbors. THANK YOU.

Why not send some advertising for three insertions or more? And why not do it right now—TODAY—while it is fresh in your mind?

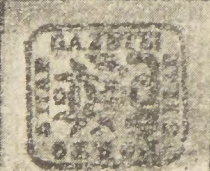
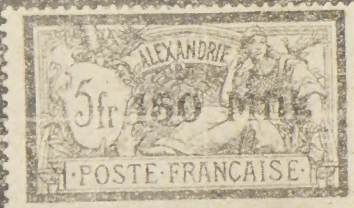
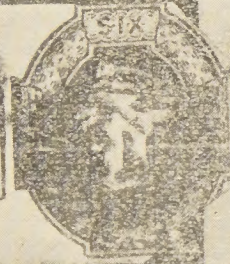
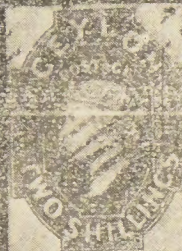
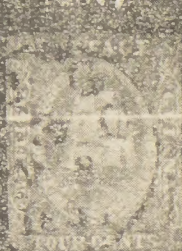
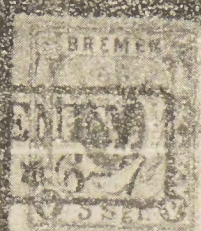
Step by step and stamp by stamp is the way to go ahead.

STAMPS Later your treasure, now your pleasure.

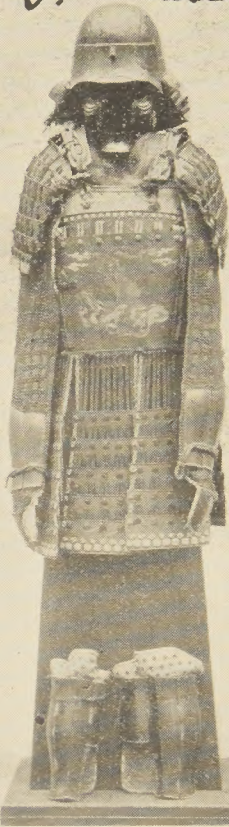
Waiting thousands will read your Want X Ad in The West. Try it Now.

This issue contains many new ads. Look them over.

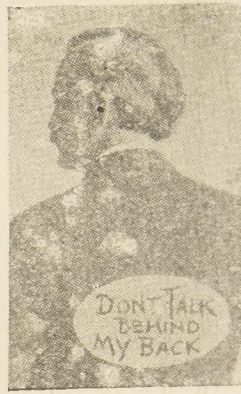
Patronize our advertisers. They are all boosters and deserve your trade.



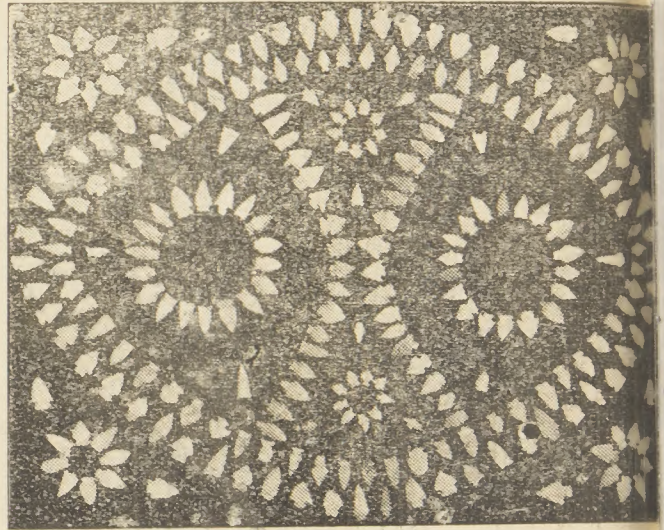
343: Plate 15



Sold by Walpole Galleries,
New York City.

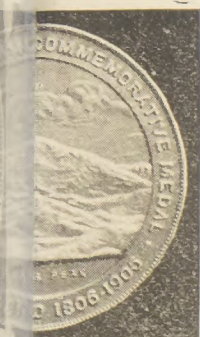


Colorado Medals 800
Located in Kansas is fine monument
where he flew first American flag

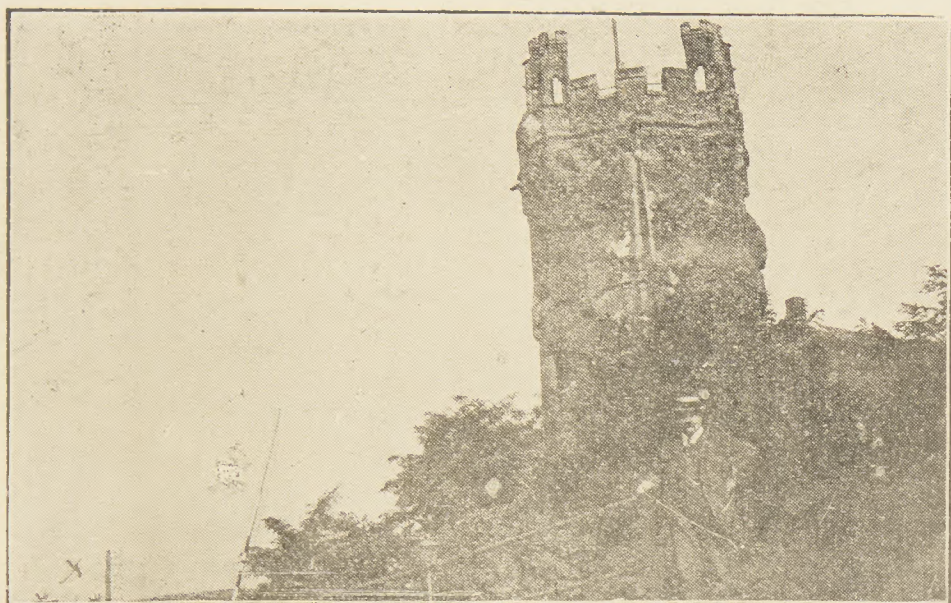


Some of Collection of Dr. Brooks, Golden City, Mo.

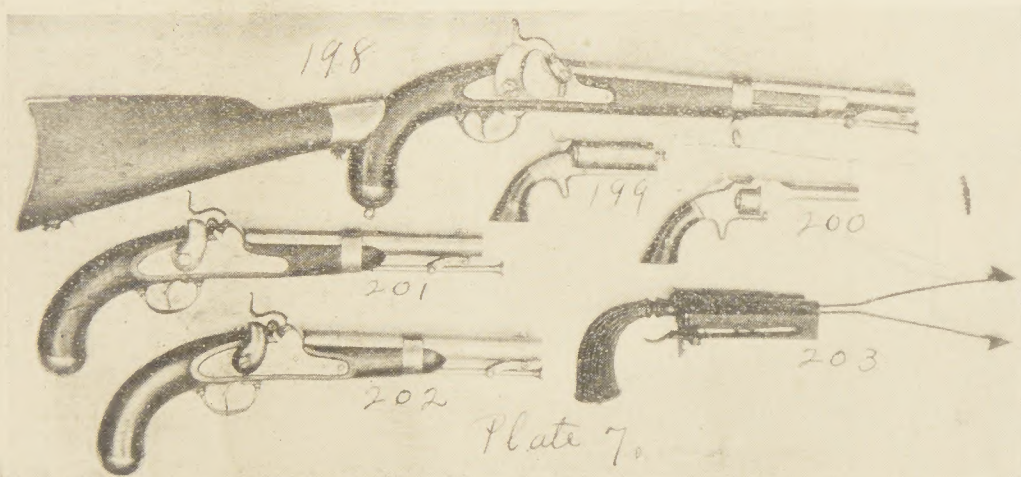




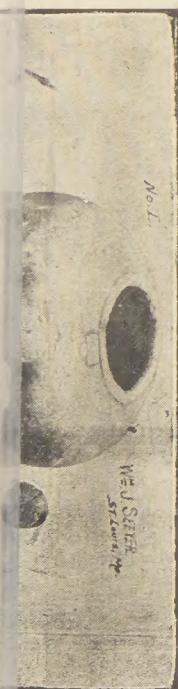
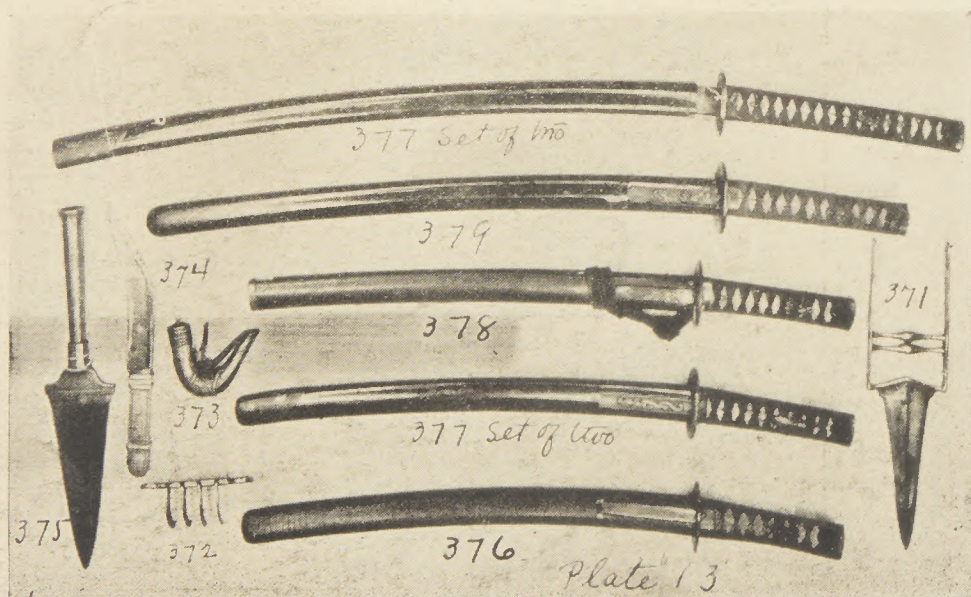
Now.
near Superior
this way west.



J. C. Aufderheide, Holland Dealer, taken near River Rhine across from Bingen when publisher of West was with him near twenty years ago.

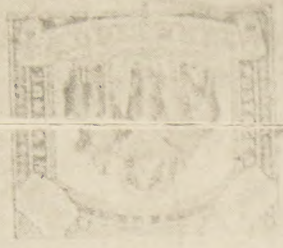


Sold by Walpole Galleries, New York City

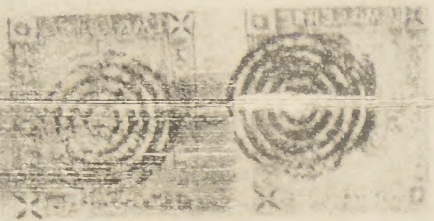


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SPECIMEN



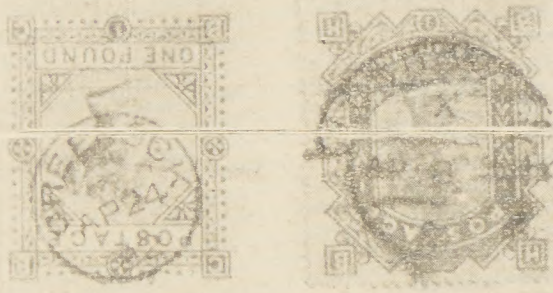
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Lot No. 609 Lot No. 291

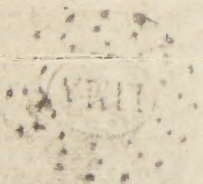


Lot No. 613 Lot No. 613



Lot No. 613

Lot No. 9



SOLD BY MOZIAN, NEW YORK CITY. SEE HIS ADS.

NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet as a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten divinities, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coins, coinage, currency, medals, etc., We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operating with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting. M. SORENSON, 1923-C AVE., EAS T, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

Some people can ask queer questions about coins, but when you tell them the real facts they don't believe you. They seem to think you are either ignorant or a crook.

While mentioning about medals, I also want to call attention to two more medals issued by the above named company. One is an elaborate plaque, commemorating the completion of the Delaware River Bridge connecting the cities of Philadelphia and Camden.

The other is the medal of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, issued on its hundredth birthday to commemorate not merely an important milestone in its own history but the rounding out of a century of a definite American railroad achievement.

The Baltimore and Ohio was the first American railroad to operate its lines for the public handling of passengers and freight. This was early in 1830. In all the one hundred years of its life it has changed neither its corporate name, its charter nor its fundamental organization.

The obverse of the medal depicts one of the most modern trains of the Baltimore and Ohio—The Capital Limited or The National Limited—drawn by one of the most modern passenger locomotives built. The spirit of Transportation guides the locomotive in its onward flight.

The reverse shows the Tom Thumb, designed by Alderman Peter Cooper of New York and the first steam locomotive to be built in the United States, even though it was never put into practical service.

These fine and interesting medals are offered for sale by the Medallie Art Company.

An interesting book has been published in Denmark by Dr. polit. J. Wilcke. Its title is "Kurantmonten 1726-1788," and treats on that mint's many vicissitudes during the period named. The author characterizes his book as a continuation of his own previous works on mint history from 1588 to 1670, and professor Axel Nielsen's thesis for his doctor's degree, treating on the same subject, and covering the period 1670-1726. The book reveals much of economic history, as numismatic history always does, and many interesting incidents of the time are related. Years previous a royal decree had been issued, prohibiting private manufacture of whiskey—a decree, which nobody had taken seriously, but the time came when the king was badly in need of metal to be struck into coins, so the police were handed a poke in the ribs and told to get busy, with the happy result that much confiscated copper was

turned over to the mint, as it had been discovered that copper stills were good material for coins. In 1771 the mint master was allowed a new team for the roller sweep, and new die cutters were employed. These were not all equally successful in their efforts. In the hurry several engraver's errors went by unnoticed, with the result that on several copper coins, instead of reading: "1 Skilling Danske K. M. 1771," we find such misspellings of the word "Danske" (Danish) as "Dankse" and "Dnaske."

The gold dollar rated 1854 varies in worth according to whether it bears the initials D, C or S, or no initial at all. The C piece is worth as much as \$500; the D and S pieces are worth five dollars and the unmarked coin is worth about \$2.50.

An English half-sovereign of 1863 is worth \$2.35. It is almost impossible to identify foreign coins from description. The best thing to do is to send a pencil impression of both sides of the coin to a numismatist or collector.

The U. S. silver dollar of 1798 is worth from two to six dollars, according to its condition; the half dollar of 1808 is worth sixty cents; the half dollar of 1818, face; half dollar of 1820, fifty-five cents; twenty-cent piece of 1875, twenty-five cents.

The 1883 five-cent pieces without the "cents" are worth only five cents each.

The Indian head one-cent piece has not been called out of circulation. It has yielded to the ever increasing supply of the new design.

A \$3 gold piece of 1854 or 1878 is worth \$4.50 or more, according to its condition. A silver dollar of 1795 or 1796 will bring \$1.50 or \$2 if in good condition; more if perfect. A half dollar of 1806 will bring no premium unless in very fine condition. A half dollar of 1811 is seldom worth more than 55 cents.

The quarter dollar of 1854, ten-cent piece of 1833, five-cent pieces of 1882, 1883, two-cent piece of 1864 and one-cent pieces of 1854, 1848, 1847 and 1832 bear no premiums. The half-dime of 1860, if uncirculated, is worth a little more than face value, and the same thing is true of the nickel one-cent pieces of 1858 and 1859. The Liberty cent of 1827 is worth face value or slightly more if in excellent condition.

Old paper money can be redeemed at a bank. As long as it continues to be legal tender, an old bill is redeemable. Such bills seldom carry any premium, however, unless they are crisp and new.

The Copper Rebellion token, dated June, 1864, is not a rare collector's item. The Georgios II Rex coin should be exhibited to a dealer or coin expert, who can tell whether it is valuable.

Proprietary stamps of the Civil War period are not rare. They are worth a few cents each, more if uncanceled and in good condition.

Q. In what year was the first official standard United States penny made?—L. B.

A. The first one-cent piece was coined in 1792.

The Indian head cents of bronze were coined from 1864 to 1909. The only premium on those coins is offered for the 1877 issue, which brings from five cents to one dollar, depending on its condition.

"Not worth a rap." A rap was a counterfeit Irish coin of the time of George I which passed for a half-penny, though not really worth a fourth of that value.

NOTES OF INTEREST TO THE ARMS COLLECTOR.—By F. G. Carnes.

Back more than a century and a half ago one of the greatest adventurers of all time frequented Kentucky, the noted Daniel Boone, fighting Indians and exploring the then unknown wilderness west of the mountains. On one of his trips he killed a bear, probably an enormous one, or else there was something out of the ordinary about the incident, to commemorate he carved on the trunk of a tree "D. Boon cilled a Bar on this tree in year 1760." Evidently he was more familiar with his rifle than he was with his spelling book. This tree had stood until a few years ago, when it was blown down, nearby collectors secured bits of the wood as curios, no doubt some day genuine bits of this wood will be highly prized by collectors.

Old Fort Halkett, in the Liard River country, abandoned almost 100 years ago, by the Hudson Bay Co., has been re-discovered by Allaire Delzell, a trapper, who has reached Telegraph Creek, B. C., from the river country. In the 80's an attempt was made by an expedition of the geographical survey to find the old post but with out success. Delzell is probably the first white man to visit the place since the traders abandoned it a century ago. He found an old cabin, built of square timbers, near a stretch of water called Fish Lake by the Indians. Inside the cabin was found a quantity of powder and lead, as well as a number of ancient muskets. Parchment made from caribou skins covered the windows, but Delzell believes that the parchment was provided by the Indians, who apparently made use of the old fort from time to time.

Gun Used in Little Big Horn Fight. Apologies to Mr. E. A. Brininstool.

The question has several times been raised as to what arm the Seventh Cavalry used in the battle of the Little Big Horn, commonly referred to as "Custer's Last Fight." It has been contended by some writers that the troops were armed with the Spencer carbine—the same gun used by Forsyth's Scouts in the celebrated "Battle of the Arickaree" in September, 1868, which gun was a 56 caliber, seven-shot repeater, shooting a rimfire cartridge and loading through the butt plate, which held the magazine. The Spencer was a wonderful gun in its day, but it shot a light charge of powder—45 grains—although the ball was of 350 grain weight, and was not accurate at anywhere near what nowadays would be considered a fair range.

There was also quite a bit of trouble with the extractor—a knife-blade like affair, which pulled only from one edge of the shell and would often slip past the head and the shooter was up against the task of using a knife or something else, to get the shell out of the chamber before he could shoot again.

In order to set this question at rest for all time, I want to state that the 7th Cavalry, in the battle of Little Big Horn, were armed with the old 45-70 Springfield single shot carbine and nothing else—that is excepting Colt revolvers. No sabres were carried on this expedition of the 7th—for the first time in its history. The cavalry left Fort A. Lincoln with its sabres, but at the mouth of Powder river, where the wagon train was parked, (or at the mouth of the Rose Bud—I am not sure which place but either one or the other) it was decided that the sabres on this expedition would be useless, and they were all boxed up and sent back to the supply steamer. Not even an officer retained a sword or sabre.

To Reno's men, on their retreat across the river, to the hills, these sabres would have come in mighty handy. When that stampede took place

and the troops were engaged at the ford in fierce hand-to-hand fighting, doubtless many a trooper might have saved his life if he had had his trusty sabre with which to defend himself after the six shots were discharged from his revolver. And many a trooper who was pulled from his horse and butchered before the ford was reached, might have defended himself heroically with sabre.

In Adventure Magazine last spring, this same question was up as to "which did Custer's men use in the Little Big Horn fight." Donegan Wiggins, the gun and revolver expert, contended that the 7th Cavalry was armed with the seven-shot Spencer carbine.

To all who are interested in this question this letter from Col. Varnum settled the controversy:

Dear Sir:

Yours just received. We used the 45 caliber Springfield carbine in 1876, 70 grains ammunition. No, Spencer carbines or rifles were not used in the regiment in my day. When I joined in '72 we were armed with Sharps carbines and some of the troops had three kinds of carbines for experimental purposes, viz: Ward-Burton, 50 cal.; Springfield, 50 cal., and Remington, 50 cal., but in 1876 we all had Springfield 45's. I never saw but one Spencer in all my life and that was an old worthless gun some one picked up.

"Very truly yours,

"CHAS. A. VARNUM."

Colonel Varnum was, in 1876, a lieutenant of the 7th Cavalry and had charge of all the Indian scouts engaged by the command.

A HANDY BOOK FOR COIN COLLECTORS.

Numismatist says: "The Rocky Mountain Coin Encyclopedia" is the title of a pocket-size book published by the Adair Book, Stamp and Coin Co., of Denver, Col., compiled by Dr. Holland A. Davis, secretary of the American Philatelic Society. Within its 76 pages is a great amount of information of interest and value particularly to the young collector. While the greater part of the book is taken up with a tabulated list of United States coins, including commemorative issues, private gold, colonial and state issues, there are also lists of encased postage stamps and fractional currency. A feature of the tabulated list of coins is the number of pieces struck of each denomination each year, with their approximate value. Other parts of the book are devoted to a list of numismatic terms in English, with the French and German equivalents; tables giving the United States gold value of foreign coins, and a glossary of numismatic terms.

COLLECTION.

Harry Metz of Walthill, Neb., has a hobby of collecting antiques and curios. A case in the hotel office contains a collection of shells, Indian relics, old money and jewelry. Hanging on the wall above the case are old flint lock rifles and other ancient firearms, Indian bows and battle axes.

Among his collection is a watch which was made in London and the story goes that this watch was taken from the body of a dead Hessian soldier during the Revolutionary war. The watch must be taken from the case to be wound. It winds with a key and has a chain winding around a drum. It has Roman numerals on the dial, an hour hand and minute hand, but no second hand.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

COLLECTING.—By Paul M. Lange. Read at Last A. N. A. Convention.

It seems like carrying coals to New Castle to tell you anything about coin collecting, but it is my all-absorbing hobby and I just can't help talking about it. There is no greater bore than he who always talks about one subject, and his friends and acquaintances soon learn to avoid a fellow who always babbles about his hobby.

But coin collecting has so many interesting sides to it that a general collector can talk a year about his coins and still tell something new. I have yet to find the man, and also the lady, who has been bored by an interesting story. Could you find anywhere more to tell about, and really say something, than coins?

The most disinterested man in our hobby—and this is a riddle to me—is the banker. I have found more ignorance concerning coins and coinage in banks than in cobbler shops. (In fact, a good friend of mine is a little old cobbler in a side street, who has not a coin of his own and still is well informed on our hobby.) The cold, fishy stare that greets me when I start talking about "old coins" to a bank president or cashier is enough to discourage any other mortal. But under this icy shell is a human being. He has been a boy, and I can usually get a rise out of him by casually producing a piece-of-eight out of one of my many pockets and start talking about pirates. Most all of them have read "Treasure Island," or at least heard of it, and they will begin to thaw.

I always carry, to the dismay of my good wife, a collection of coins in my pockets, and in the case of glass or porcelain coins, they sometimes come to grief, and I have splinters instead of specimens in my pocket, or the string of my wampum breaks and I have to fish it out of the corners. But I can always, no matter who I am speaking to, get an interested hearer.

One of my pieces is a denarius of Tiberius, the Tribute Penny, and it always proves of interest to the churchman, and all, no matter of what denomination, find it worth while to scrutinize it closely. A shekel has started an Isrealite collecting. Papal coins and medals always prove interesting to the Catholic.

I caught a barber with a Chinese razor coin and converted a confirmed disciple of Isaac Walton with some fishhook money. A machinist found the machine or lathe engraving on the private gold interesting and all will fall for the Fugio cent with its homely motto, "Mind your business."

An accountant collects coins on account of their curious subdivisions, as, for instance, the aes, with its semis, triens, quincunx, quadrans, sextans and uncia. Another acquaintance finds his pleasure in collecting the smallest unit of any country and all times, while still another only takes silver coins of 10-cent size. All very interesting, as long as you do not neglect the historical side of it.

I see no reason why every city in our land should not have a prosperous numismatic club. In fact, I found it easy to start one, and shall endeavor to become godfather to many more.

I am specializing in coins of one emperor, by the way, Marcus Aurelius, greatest of all rulers and philosopher, but always keep a tray of curious coins in my cabinet. It serves as an introduction to the science of numismatics, and if I see the glimmer of interest in the eye of my hearer I show him my sestertii, but not otherwise.

In order to arouse the proper spirit it is necessary to start in with the

THE PHILATELIC WEST

boys and inoculate them early with knowledge, and, above all, protect them from the unscrupulous dealer.

I have seen many young fellows who found they had been thoroughly trimmed. And not alone the boys need protection, but also grown-ups, who are groping for a hobby, could be brought into the ranks if not so many unreliable stories were set afloat about the high value of old coins, like that old catch phrase, "Keep all coins before such and such a year, they may be valuable." People usually overlook the "maybe," and when they show their hoards, and you tell them they are not worth anything above face, they bring out their coin books and show you the prices mentioned therein. It is a pity that we cannot get out a catalog, like Scott's on stamps, giving the value of all coins and all information about them. I realize that this is impossible, but some way should be found to give better information about our hobby.

I have in preparation a booklet on our American coinage that will give information in a short, clear way and be illustrated with the coins in question, but I think it will need an "angel" to get it under way. A very little time spent by the seasoned collector will help greatly to advance our beloved hobby. Let us all get behind the cart and push and we will see as many coin collectors as there are stamp collectors.

INDIANS TO JOIN WILD WEST SHOW

Two groups of Sioux Indians are leaving soon to join shows. One of these groups is going direct to Germany to join the Sassasina Circus, the largest European circus. The Indians were signed up by Clarence Schultz of Marlin, Okla., and Martin Red Bear will be the chief. They are to take the train from Rushville the latter part of this week, with 22 in the party.

The other group will consist of about 25 Siouxs, and they will be joined later by 25 Cheyennes. They will travel with the 101 Ranch Wild West show, the largest wild west show in the world. They go first to Oklahoma, the show's home station, and then to St. Louis and on east where they will be all summer. This group of Indians was organized by Bill Penny of the "101."

Both of these groups were outfitted complete from the Lyon Curio Store of Clinton. Mr. Penny of the "101" states that he has been buying his Indian equipment from Lyon for several years and believes it the best place of its kind in the world. See Lyon Ad.

HASTINGS, (NEBR.,) PET AND HOBBY SHOW.

Great help to boys, articles and exhibits from other countries as well as our own. Held New Year's day at Hastings Y. M. C. A. building, larger and better than last year.

Collections of coins, postage stamps, Indian war relics, butterflies, moths, etc., all mounted. Seventy-seven boys entered a total of 112 entries. First, second and third prizes, ribbons, were given in each division; prizes furnished by the local rotary club. A large exhibit of pets was on display.—Sent by Rickel.

It is not so very long ago that copper was used in Sweden as the chief medium of exchange, and at times merchants had to take wheelbarrows with them when they went to receive payment of considerable sums.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

CALIFORNIA COLLECTORS' COLUMN.—By George J. Remsburg.

Samuel DuBois of Dos Palos has a collection of bicycles of various kinds, some of them being of unique models and others of considerable historic interest and great rarity.

Boutwell Dunlap, California historian, recently found a copy of what is believed to be the first newspaper printed in California. It is the "California Star," printed at Yerba Buena, October 24, 1846. Heretofore it was believed the first California newspaper was printed in San Francisco in January 1847.

A splendid museum is being built up in the Giant Forest in this county (Tulare county, California.)

George H. Malter, a pioneer of Fresno, who died a while back, left valuable collections of paintings, curios, books, antiques, etc., including the finest collection of Chinese furniture in California. His library contained more than 8,000 volumes from all parts of the world.

What is believed to be the original nugget picked up by James Marshall at Coloma on January 24, 1848, is back in Sacramento after years of wandering. It was brought to Sacramento by Mrs. Charles F. Gunther of Altadena, whose husband purchased it at the world's Columbian exposition in Chicago in 1893. The nugget is accompanied by affidavits by Mrs. Peter L. Wimmer, wife of Marshall's partner, and others swearing it is the original nugget.

The University of California owns the largest collection of nicotine or tobacco plants in the world.

One of the largest masses of gold (by some called nugget) in California was found in 1860 in the Monumental mine, in the buttes of Sierra county. It weighs 1,596 troy ounces and has an approximate value of \$29,000.

Antiques of great value, gathered in all parts of Europe and in the Orient by the late Dana Perkins, which for years made his home in Roseville, one of the show places of Placer county, were removed to San Francisco by his nephew, Lawrence Perkins, who came into the property on the elder Perkins' death.

An ancient Indian burial ground was recently uncovered by workmen grading for an airport at Exeter.

The city of Visalia has started a municipal museum, as has also Hanford.

The Henry E. Huntington library at San Marino, Calif., possesses more than a third of all English books printed between 1475 and 1640. A recent compilation of the London Bibliographical Society credits this library with 8,726 of the 26,142 books printed during this period, while approximately 9,000 books of the period have been added since the list was made.

Mrs. S. M. Pate of LeGrande has a curio and relic collection valued at \$10,000. Her special hobby is firearms, of which she has fine examples from the days of the blunderbuss and flint lock to modern times. She has a flint lock pistol inlaid with pearl and gold. Besides numerous antiques she has many Indian relics, including 248 stone mortars from the hills of Mariposa county.

George W. Pierson of Piedra owns an old saddle which the Dalton brothers, famous bandits, left among other articles in their cave retreat on Dalton Mountain, near that place, 40 years ago, when they fled from California and went to Kansas, where most of their gang were killed.

The silk threads in United States paper money are distinctive of the paper currency of this country.

JUST NOTES FROM EVERYWHERE THAT MAY INTEREST YOU.

By S. P. Hughes.

Several times in the past the writer has called attention to the excavations that are being carried on in the ancient city of Ur. The ancient home of the Chaldeans, is, as is well known in what we know as Mesopotamia.

The joint expedition under the direction of the British Museum, and the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Wooley in charge of the works is of the opinion that the recent discoveries are of the utmost importance, as it sheds much light on burial and other customs in use nearly 4000 years ago. One of the burials opened contained the jeweled and bedecked bodies of the entire harem of the master.

Dr. Robert F. Gilder, formerly field man for the state museum, University of Nebraska, has recently accepted a similar position with the University of Omaha, and will have charge of such work as may be carried on in this territory.

Space does not permit at this time to go into minute details; but after thirty years, the 1898 revenue stamps have just started to come into prominence, and to be studied with an interest that was lacking at the time of their issue. The stamps were first placed in use the first of July, 1898, and had as their sole object, the raising of revenue to defray the expense of the Spanish war.

Taking up the proprietary issues as a whole we have in addition to the regular values, many minor varieties and several styles of separation. The familiar battleship should lend an added interest to the issue, as the illustration was at the time of issue, supposed to be an excellent picture of the ill fated Maine.

The entire issue abounds in many shades and colors, and at some future time, the writer will take up these various matters and furnish the readers of the West with a complete check list of all known shades, varieties, and types of separation.

The Scott catalogue makes no effort to go into these minor details, as limited space would not permit them to do so. It is however not out of place to herein call attention to the collector of the several types of roulette.

The writer well remembers the first stamps on sale were of the first type of roulette, and some time later the so called hyphen hole, an oblong type of perforation in which small pieces of paper were punched out. Very few collectors have gone into the matter in detail, and as a result little is known of these separations or the time of their use. Some of the stamps may be found with only one style of roulette, while others have two or three. The writer has found five types of separation in all, and at present is searching government records to find, if possible, the number of each type so separated.

Several values are known to be only part perforated, and others may turn up as the search continues. All part roulettes so far examined by the writer are of the very first issue, and are not found except with the first type of roulette.

The failure of at least two large medicine concerns to obtain stamps by the first day of July, 1898, resulted in provisionals being issued. One firm at Binghamton, N. Y., simply overprinted postage stamps, and another caused to be printed a small label with the firms name and the reason for its issue, and in turn paid the amount of such stamp tax to the collector of revenue for that district.

Several firms had cancelling dies made and cancelled the stamps with a fancy style of cancellation. These are now being sought by collectors and not unlike the precancel collector, they are endeavoring to complete the sets with the various types of cancellation.

The Scott catalog fairly represents the value of each stamp, so far as the regular varieties go. The minor varieties and shades, in many cases are exceedingly scarce. The part roulettes are much scarcer than catalog values would indicate. The part roulette 2c is by far the scarcer of the entire issue. So far as the writer knows only one such stamp has been offered for sale in an auction, during the past 20 years. Letters to many dealers have failed to locate a copy, while the others have been offered for sale several times.

The three and three-fourths cent of the first issue are much scarcer than the five cent of any of the several printings. Where first issue is mentioned, the writer means the first printing. The entire time of these various printings represent only one issue.

With the editor's kind permission, an entire check list will be printed in the West at an early date.

A writer in another well known paper writes the editor and asks "when is a precancel." The writer has many times asked this question of collectors, and also the late Rev. Whitmer, the largest Nebraska collector of precancels known. Rev. Whitmer answered that a precancel was one only when recognized by the men who get up the catalogs. The writer does not care to start any discussion; but would like to hear from advanced collectors along this line, and it is possible some interesting data and information may be available for the readers of this paper.

POSSESSES VALUABLE LINCOLN COLLECTION.

Has Only Lincoln Cameo Known Sold by West Reader.

Observance of Lincoln's birthday is always of particular significance to Judson Brenner, county treasurer, life long collector of Lincolnia.

Brenner has a Lincoln collection which is ranged among the best in the country. He has spent a lifetime collecting it and while today he will place no value on it, it is understood to be worth several thousand dollars.

Rare photographs of Lincoln, his signature, bronzes, statues, medals, war stamps, china, books, scarcely begin to cover the classifications under which his collection is carried.

The big bronze pieces alone are particularly interesting because of their rare studies of Lincoln under many conditions.

China of the period with heads of Lincoln used as the pattern are in his collection. The rare pieces of the collection are too valuable to be kept at his home and are all in safety deposit boxes at downtown banks. They include solid gold and silver metals of unusual design, coins and many other valuables.

Scrap books showing stamps and envelopes of the period, letters from Lincoln, and many other documents make up the exhibit. In the living room of his home, he keeps one cabinet filled with many of the interesting things of the Lincoln period.

Everything in the collection has been carefully catalogued and is known by collectors all over the country.

It has been on exhibit here several times and always attracts a large gathering. Sent by Buttermore.

AUTOGRAPH LETTER COLLECTING.—By Harry M. Konwiser.

The old-time autograph collector is passe. Like the bustle and the heavy undies it is out of the picture. The folks who showed albums containing pieces of paper on which one read "Yrs. Jas. Madison" or "Yrs. Tly. A. Jackson" are on better ground now—for along with the signatures of men (and women) of eminence they secure complete letters.

In older days the mere autograph of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson or Andy Jackson would have sufficed any one interested in gathering a group of presidential autographs. Today the smart collector seeks these names on letters only, for he has the proper slant on the idea that Americana is a subject of never ending interest.

The collecting of the letters of the Early Days of our country, the stirring days of 1776-1789, form a special period to some, and the letters brought forth (via York auctions) of this period are usually well worth placing in museums for they tell of the historic days as no historian tells the story.

Suppose you ran across a "Mary Washington letter." George's mother's autograph is scarce enough, but only two letters "by her" are known, one being in the Morgan library, the other in the hands of a New York dealer. In one letter Mrs. Washington writes to Lund Washington, a nephew of the first president, and manager of the estate at Mt. Vernon in 1778, cancelling a request for forty pounds, apparently having received such an amount from her son. Mrs. Washington's spelling was not of the best, of course, popular education for females not being considered one of the requisites for women of that day.

Naturally pieces of this sort are not for the average fancier of Americana. There should be a limit to one's desire, in hobby-land. Without such an idea the devotee is apt to run amuck, eventually losing interest because of inability to acquire certain things. The careful person looks the field over, sizes up the possibilities and cuts the ideal to his purse. It still can be done, for not all early American letters are in the three or four figure class.

Do not confuse yourself about this. You, like others, have seen newspaper references to a Lincoln letter or a Roosevelt letter selling at what seemed to be a very large figure. The signature, of itself, did not create the very high price, you can rest assured. It was the contents matter. That is the important thing.

Most of the "autograph" publicity, in the daily press, is developed on sales of "a signature of Button Gwinnett"—one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The last one brought \$18,600, at a New York sale, November 3, 1927. This was a drop from the previous sales price of \$28,500. Why the drop? Oh, merely that several autographs of this Georgia signer had been found since the \$28,500 was paid in March of last year.

Immediately everyone seeks for signers, not knowing that some are not scarce at all—that quite a few can be bought at around ten dollars each.

Fortunately every one does not want a set of signers. There are those content to own a set of Presidential Letters. Others seek a letter of every Secretary of State, beginning with Alexander Hamilton, or Secretary of War letters, beginning with Henry Knox, in the Washington administration. The postally-minded, of the stamp collecting fold, might interest themselves in letters of Postmaster Generals, commencing with Samuel Osgood, who was appointed to office in 1789, becoming the first postmaster general of the United States.

Other groups: The Mexican War period; the Civil War period, North and South; The Gold Days of the West; the Indian Period, letters being scarce of course, etc.

Interest can be aroused around States and Territories or around sections. One might fare worse than try to collect a letter or two appertaining to any State in the Union, beginning with the earliest possible letter.

Bear in mind, when you collect letters, you do not collect books or printed matter. Every letter is a thing unto itself, practically unique. (Assuming of course you will not go in for modern form letters.)

Apart from Americana one might collect Literature, Art, Trade, Religion or what'er one fancies. But do bear in mind that not every early U. S. A. letter is worth thousands of dollars. As a matter of fact if I wanted to spend one thousand dollars for one thousand early U. S. A. letters I could do so without spending much time, any day, in New York.

(The writer will make every effort to answer all querijes sent him appertaining to American letters.)

It is idle to ask in what the fascination of collecting lies. Although, however, every connoisseur has his own reason for his preference, each is fundamentally identical. It will be admitted that one of the explanations—and not the least important—is that it gives us a kindred interest. The personal element in collecting is recognized in terms of commercial values.

The price of a book may be increased fourfold because it is signed by the author or bears an intimate relationship to him. (Every connoisseur is familiar with "association books.") But it should be noted that this personal connection must be identified in a tangible manner.

There is no market value—and very little aesthetic satisfaction—in the knowledge that a famous work was once the property of a celebrity unless there was a very real association, expressed in some positive form, between the two. But so great is the personal note in collecting, whether it be of books, antiques or objets d'art, that even the slightest factor, only let it be substantiated by proof, enhances saleability.—Bazar.

Possession of old coins is interesting many people as much as possession of the common tender of the day. The Bath Times which has been listing owners of valuable old coins, reports that Miss Lillian Leonard of that city has a number of valuable coins which includes a Queen Anne farthing of the date 1709. It is of copper alloy and thick and about the size of a penny. She has a gold dollar of the date 1854, a \$2.50 gold piece dated 1847, two gold half dollars dated 1872, one of which is round and one octagonal; a Liberty half, two gold quarters of the date 1872, one round and one octagonal; a Liberty half dollar dater 1828, which is of silver with "50 Cents" on one side and carrying 13 stars while around the edge are the words "One-Half Dollar." She has a Mexican silver coin of the date 1844 and many others of interest.—Sent by Verry.

Except a living man, there is nothing more wonderful than a book! A message to us from the dead—from human souls we never saw, who lived, perhaps, thousands of miles away. And yet, in those sheets of paper, speak to us, arouse us, terrify us, teach us, comfort us, open their hearts to us as brothers.—Charles Kingsley.

THE EDWARD PARK COLLECTION OF INDIAN ARTIFACTS.

By Mark E. Zimmerman, White Cloud, Kansas.

Mr. Park has the largest collection of prehistoric Indian artifacts in northeastern Kansas. In this collection are 135 stone axes and celts. They run in weight from a few ounces up to seven pounds.

There are 20 pipes, finished and unfinished. Eight are the monitor type.

There are 400 flint spearheads, one over 12 inches in length, 500 flint knives, many of which are the four bladed type and 2,000 arrowheads, the majority of which are the triangular war points.

There are a number of ceremonials in this collection. Pottery, hammer-stones, arrowshaft smoothers, pestles, mortars and beads make up the rest of this great collection which 95 per cent came from Doniphan and Brown counties, Kansas, and Richardson county, Nebraska.

It is a typical collection of the White Pawnee who built the mounds and stone cist graves in this locality. So far as we have been able to determine very little if any of this stone age stuff, was used by either the Kansas or Iowa tribes of the Siouan family of American Indians.

We have been unable to find any potshers on the old Kansas village on Independence creek in the southern part of Doniphan county, where the Kaws were residing in 1724. A very few sherds have been found on this old Kansas site, but all of them were Caddoan ware.

We feel safe in the belief that the Park collection is largely White Pawnee, or Tallegwi Ohio Mound and Cist Builder and the remainder is Caddoan. We contend that the Caddoan family were red Indians and that the Pawnee were Tallegwi stock from Ohio. They were Caddoan by adoption.

Mr. Park is well posted on Pawnee history and culture, but archaeology is his pet hobby.

COIN OF CAESAR'S TIME.

Valued at more than \$500, a rare collection of old and modern coins of several nations possessed by E. H. Kerbel, Norfolk drug store employe, is attracting considerable attention from pedestrians in the business section.

The oldest coin in this collection, which Mr. Kerbel has been gathering for twelve years, is a thick coin that was made about 45 B. C., at the time Caesar ruled the Roman empire. It is rough in appearance, about one-half an inch thick and about the size of the United States nickel.

A few years ago while working in Des Moines, Ia., Mr. Kerbel traded two coins once in circulation in Louisiana before it became a part of the United States, for the Roman coin. Later while in Minneapolis, Minn., Mr. Kerbel took the Roman coin to a museum at that place and verified its genuineness.

He also owns a Louisiana coin bearing the date of 1770 and several others that were coined when the United States was in its infancy. One coin dated 1824 was acquired by Mr. Kerbel when he befriended a tramp a few years ago.

Brantford, Canada.—While digging potatoes in his garden recently, J. Butler of Echo place turned up an 1820 halfpenny token. It was in a good state of preservation and showed clearly on one side a device of two spades crossed with an anvil underneath. On the other side was a sailing ship and the words "Commercial Exchange."

INDIAN NOTES, ANCIENT AND MODERN.—By W. Straley.

The Geographic Board of Canada has been delving into the source of Indian place names and has made many interesting discoveries, and found that said names may refer to physical characteristics of the place, to incidents in the history of the tribe, or to association of a tribe with a region.

Recently the Alabama Indians, who reside at Indian Village, Texas, who have been without a tribal chief since the death of John Scott, about 13 years ago, elected a new chief, Ba-hay, the arrow-maker, 67 years old. It is said the tribe has occupied the site ever since Sam Houston deeded two sections of land to the former chief, John Scott, with the admonition to never leave the land and to never sell it to the white man.

Alex Jourdan, a Chippewa Indian, was recently convicted for slaying his 90-year-old mother-in-law with an axe last March. His defense was that it was a tribal custom to thus put to death the aged and infirm, but the white man's court couldn't see it in that light, and Jourdan was given life imprisonment for the deed.

J. A. Jeancon, Colorado state archaeologist, contends that the Indians who occupied the site in the Chimney Rock region, near Pagosa Springs, Colo., resided there about 2,000 years before Christ. The inhabitants lived in pit houses—holes in the ground with brush covering.

The Eskimo and Alaska Indian children play with valuable toys—carved from the purest of ivory.

Mrs. Mary Hunter Austin addressed the Kansas City Woman's club on February 6. Her talk was replete with Indian folklore. She has spent many years in the Mojave Desert and is an authority on the folklore and art of the Indian.

Mr. Harlan I. Smith, the eminent archaeologist of the National Museum of Canada, reports that a cedar stump of a tree that grew up out of a shell heap at Ritchie Point, British Columbia, presented a count of 325 annual rings, without counting the heart rot or outer rings. He concludes that it is proof that the heap was made long before the advent of the Europeans in that section.

Some time when you have a little leisure, take your postal gulde and pick out the towns bearing Indian names. You will be surprised at their number.

ONE OF THE EARLIEST AMERICAN CATALOGUES OF ANCIENT COINS.

Perhaps the earliest printed catalogue, made in the United States which used a Greek alphabet in printing the inscriptions on Greek coins was issued by Messrs. Tuttle, Morehouse and Taylor, printers at New Haven in 1863, or just sixty-five years ago. This catalogue, was made at the request of the College Library at Yale college. We must compliment these early printers on the fine job and clear imprint. Listing the Greek coins in the college collection of that year, they included also the Latin inscriptions on Roman coins. This list, included also modern coins and consisted of forty-seven pages and an index.—Elder Collector Notes.

The historic Lee Penny, in possession of a family in England, once was supposed to cure every ill. In 1665 it was hired by a plague-stricken town in exchange for securities valued at 25,000 pounds.

Durable paper money can be made from waste cuttings and stems of tobacco, it is reported from Europe.

OLD SOUTH DAKOTA INDIAN FORT FOUND.

Chamberlain, S. D.—Discovery of what is believed to be the oldest Indian village and fort, erected by Mandan Indians 100 years ago, now existing in the northwest has been made by Edwin Robinson of this city. The ancient river stronghold, with adjoining huts, is 40 miles north of here on the Missouri river just beyond the Big Bend region and near Cedar island.

There Mandan strongholds are scattered along the Missouri from the Niobrara river in Nebraska to the Heart and Cannonball rivers in North Dakota. They were built in defense against the Sioux and Knistenoux, better known as the Assiniboins, who constantly forced the Mandan tribes further up the river until they finally joined forces with the small Ricora and Ahnok-away nations, in the vicinity of Fort Bethold, N. D., now occupied by the Mandan, Ricora and Gros Ventre tribes.

The Mandan forts are very scarce, Robinson says. The village which he found embraces 56 lodges, each lodge averaging 35 inches in diameter. The fort at the head of the village is on a promontory point, overlooking the river. It is 60 feet wide, with a slight spread, and four feet high. South of the village are six ceremonial mounds.

Robinson found many flints and some fine ceremonial objects. He is the possessor of a large collection of antiques, guns and Indian relics.

IRISH COINS OF LONG AGO.

Mr. C. J. Matheney, El Paso, Texas, has kindly sent me the following article on old Irish coinage, taken from an Irish newspaper, "The Irish Independent," Jan. 27, 1928. The article is very interesting in that it treats a subject, but little known to most collectors. Mention is made of rare old coins 1,500 years old.

"The forthcoming new Irish coinage gives a livelier interest to Irish coinage of the past. A painstaking treatise on this subject is "An Essay Towards an Historical Account of Irish Coins and of the Currency of Foreign Monies in Ireland, with an Appendix," by one James Simon, a Dublin merchant, first printed in 1749, and re-issued in 1810. The former edition was out of print when the latter was issued. Now both are out of print, but the writer has the 1810 edition, with its profuse illustrations, before him.

The author affirms that though we can not trace out the first invention of money in Ireland it was in use there long before the arrival of the Danes and Norwegians.

Incidentally, he notes, what can not fail to interest the learner of Irish that the Irish "Airgead," now used for "money" originally meant "argentum," silver, and was not made use of to designate money till the use of silver coins was introduced into Ireland, when "in all likelihood," such money was called by way of distinction from iron or copper money, *monadh na airgead*, and in process of time, for the sake of brevity, *airgead*, for money of silver.

Mints were erected at Armagh and Cashel about the time of St. Patrick's entry on his apostleship, and money was there coined for the service of the state; and Tirlagh O'Connor, King of Ireland, erected a mint at Clonmacnoise.

"We may well suppose," says Simon, "that each prince in his kingdom, in imitation of the Anglo-Saxon kings in England, struck money of his own. Here is seen a coin of Sithric, King of Dublin (A. D. 989), and another, attributed to King Brian Boru. A third one belongs to Donald, King of Monaghan. It bears that prince's head, with the inscription: DIMNROEX MNEGHI., which

the author reads. "Donaldus Rex Mnegin," in English, Monaghan. On the reverse is a cross crescent with the epigraph: ODIVLFEOIMRVIRI, "which, I confess," says the author, "I do not understand."

The Norman period is next dealt with. It is not clear if Henry II had any money struck in Ireland, "but" (says Primate Usher's "Religion of the Ancient Irish") "to the end that he might easily obtain the Pope's goodwill, for his entering upon Ireland, he voluntarily offered unto him the payment of a yearly pension of one penny out of every house in the country, which was the first ecclesiastical tribute that ever came into the Pope's coffers from Ireland." It is not known if these pennies were coined in Ireland, but Simon thinks it likely.

Few have seen a groat, but all have had their attention directed to a commodity declared not to be worth one. A groat passed for four pennies. There is one coined by Edward III in Dublin (1353). Much light and bad money was coined in Dublin, Cork and Kilmallock for which Lynch, the Master of the Mints of Ireland, was indicted, found guilty, pardoned and again employed.

Under Elizabeth "a particular kind of money was struck for this kingdom (Ireland), viz., shillings of the value of nine pence English, to pass in Ireland for 12 pence." This was the first Irish shilling. The pennies and half pennies circulated in this reign are, by some, thought to have been the first copper money struck in and for Ireland. A half penny of Charles II (1679), bears on the obverse, in English, the words, "The Dublin Haufpennie," and on the reverse, "Long Live the King."

A supplement to Simon's Essay says: "There is no doubt but it was the want of small change that occasioned persons in trade to utter promissory notes, first in copper for a halfpenny and a penny, and afterwards for two pence, and, lastly, others in silver for three pence." M. S.

RARE COLLECTION OF BANK NOTES.

Consisting of 27,000 specimens, many believed to be the only ones in existence, the Avonmore collection of bank notes, in England, and other forms of paper currency is unique.

Not one of the great banks of the world possesses anything like so many rare specimens as this collection includes. Their face value reaches a total of 600 million pounds in English money, but the owner is unable to estimate the intrinsic value, as the collection is the only really comprehensive one known to have been made from the inauguration of paper money to the present day.

It has taken three generations to bring the collection to its present dimensions, and it has necessitated journeys to many parts of the earth. It includes notes printed on paper made from mulberry leaves and issued in China six centuries ago, and also a specimen of the earliest British bank note for £100. It was issued in 1713, and gained for the Bank of England its first charter.

As a contrast there is a bank note issued during the siege of Mafeking, as well as many specimens of forged bank notes.—K. C. Star.

In recent newspaper items regarding old United States coins, The Bath Daily Times reports that Charles C. Low, treasurer of Bath Savings Institution, has plenty of copper cents ranging in dates from 1796, a half cent of the vintage of 1804 and silver half dollars as far back as 1795.—I. F. Verry.

A COIN WEEK DISPLAY, FEBRUARY 13 TO 18.

A fine collection of old coins, bank bills and script (Shin Plasters) is being displayed in the windows of Chas. B. Jack's store by Charles Jack Jr., Ionia, Mich.

The collection includes coins of the old Roman Empire, Greece, and Egypt. Coins used in many foreign countries, early Colonial coins used in the original thirteen colonies before and after the Revolutionary War.

There is the Franklin "Fugio" cent of 1788 and other coins of much historical interest. Early U. S. coins of early dates. There are the large copper cents, half cents, 3c pieces, 2c pieces familiar to all older people.

Then comes the Fractional Currency known as Shin Plasters, also "Broken Bank Bills" used during the hard times before and after the Civil War.

Many of the Confederate States bills also are shown. One tray shows the different coins used in the U. S. from 1794 to the present day, including many types and sizes and dates. One tray contains nearly a complete set of dates of large cents from 1793 to 1857.

One of the most interesting is a tray of Commemorative Coins, which are almost a history book in themselves. These were issued to celebrate or commemorate historical events that have helped to build up our country.

Though not a very large collection much time during the last twenty years has been devoted by Mr. Jack in gathering this very educational and historical collection.

A cordial invitation was extended the public to look this collection over. The students of all the schools find much to interest them there. About 1,000 coins were in this display. See his ads.

**PICTURESQUE NEW BILLS—ARTISTRY EVIDENT IN SMALLER SIZE
PAPER MONEY.**

Those who enjoy pictures of places of historic interest will soon be able to see them on our paper currency.

Orders for new types of bills call for a picture of Monticello on the two-spot, the Lincoln Memorial on the \$5 certificate, the Treasury building on the \$10, the White House on the \$20, the Capitol on the \$50 and, possibly, Independence hall on the \$100. The face of George Washington will continue to grace the \$1 bill.

Engravings of scenes, it is explained, makes counterfeiting harder.—Pathfinder.

**PAYS MOVIE FARE WITH 1804 DOLLAR WORTH \$1,250 AT
WAYCROSS, GEORGIA.**

It begins to appear as though a Waycross movie fan has paid dearly for his look at the flickering shadows. An 1804 silver dollar, presented at the ticket window of a theater here, attracted the attention of Mrs. Frank Madame, wife of the owner. Now the coin has become the center of spirited bidding, and the latest offer was said to be from a coin dealer, volunteering to trade 1250 ordinary dollars for it.—Sent by R. L. Thurber, Fairlee, Vt.

Thomas Gee memorial medals for Sunday school attendance were presented recently to six Welsh women, the youngest of whom was more than 86 years of age.

Marco Polo reported the use of paper money in China in the 13th century.

KANSAS COLUMN.—By George J. Remsburg.

Mrs. George M. Barber of Horton has a wonderful collection of antiques which was recently given nearly a column write-up in the Horton Headlight.

The first volume of Charles P. Deatherage's new history of Kansas City has appeared. Two more volumes will be published.

Paul W. Heimsoth of Larned has a "den" filled with war trophies and mementoes from far off places in which he spends and enjoys his leisure time.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hoover, 1268 Van Buren street, Topeka, have a collection of Mojolica ware numbering more than 535 pieces. It is one of the most complete and finest groups of its kind in America.

I. E. Allmon of Colby is interested in the collection of seeds and has gathered hundreds of varieties which make an interesting and instructive display. He is constantly adding to his collection.

Norman Corlett, a clerk in the Leavenworth post office, is an enthusiastic collector of Indian relics and has a fine assembly of such.

Warren Knous, for 40 years editor of the McPherson Democrat-Opinion, is a noted authority on entomology and has made a collection of more than 100,000 specimens of beetles.

H. D. Billings, banker of Delphos, has a collection of Indian relics, fossils, firearms and other relics and curios.

COINAGE BY THE MINTS.

The domestic coinage executed by the United States mints during the fiscal year 1927 was greater in value than that of the prior fiscal year by about \$14,000,000, although the number of pieces was approximately 61,000,000 fewer. The principal factor in this result were about \$20,000,000 more gold coins and 68,000,000 fewer pieces of minor coins. The total domestic coinage was 310,960,019 pieces, with value \$102,653,129.50, as compared with the prior year's 372,171,282 pieces, valued at \$88,614,418. The 1927 total consisted of gold, \$83,955,000; silver dollars, \$4,456,900; subsidiary silver, \$9,572,659.50; nickel, \$2,910,100, and bronze, \$1,758,470. As is usual the Philadelphia mint made most of the minor and subsidiary silver coins, as well as some silver dollars and about \$26,000,000 in gold. The San Francisco mint was principally engaged upon gold coin and silver dollars, while the Denver mint made silver dollars and small coins.

Coinage for foreign governments was made during the past fiscal year only at the Philadelphia mint. The total was 7,099,000 pieces, which compares with 16,676,000 pieces during the prior year. For Guatemala, 90,000 gold pieces were made; for Venezuela, 1,545,000 silver pieces and 2,800,000 nickel pieces; for Peru, 620,000 silver pieces and 1,194,000 nickel pieces; and for Nicaragua, 500,000 silver pieces, 100,000 nickel pieces and 250,000 bronze pieces.

The 1927 combined total of domestic and foreign pieces, 318,059,019, compares with last year's 388,847,282 pieces.

Coins of special design, authorized by congress, were issued during the fiscal year 1927, as follows:

The Vermont-Bennington half dollar was authorized by act of congress approved February 24, 1925, in commemoration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the independence of Vermont and of the battle of Bennington. It was designed by Charles Keck. In addition to the legends and inscriptions required by basic law, the obverse of the coin bears a likeness of Ira Allen,

with his name as founder of Vermont. The reverse carries the figure of a catamount, the name and date of the battle of Bennington, which occurred August 16, 1777, also the year of the coin's issue, 1927, and the words "Half Dollar."

The Oregon Trail half dollar is a special design coin authorized by act of congress May 17, 1926, to commemorate the heroism of the pioneers who traveled to the far west, and to aid in erection of suitable monuments to commemorate the tragic events associated with that emigration, which resulted in adding new states to the union. The obverse of the coin bears a likeness of an old-time Conestoga wagon drawn by oxen over the brow of a hill and toward the setting sun. The phrase "Oregon Trail Memorial" appears, as well as other inscriptions required by law. On the reverse of the coin appears the full length figure of an Indian with typical headdress, blanket and bow. The left hand of the Indian is raised as if in warning to those of the East. The Oregon trail is traced across a map of the United States as a background on this side of the coin, which was designed by Mrs. Laura G. Frazer.

On June 30, 1927, the estimated stock of domestic coin in the United States was \$2,138,004,166, of which \$1,304,469,861 was gold, \$537,944,446 standard silver dollars, and \$295,589,859 subsidiary silver coins.

The stock of gold bullion in the mints, assay offices and Federal reserve banks on the same date was valued at \$3,260,628,275, a decrease during the year of \$8,105,370; the stock of silver bullion was 9,068,349.88 fine ounces, a reduction of 1,005,387.72 fine ounces.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1927, the engraving department made 2,828 working dies for domestic coinage, including those for the Oregon Trail, and Battle of Bennington, memorial coinage. Master dies, hubs and working dies were made for Philippine, Venezuelan, Guatemalan, Peruvian and Nicaraguan coinage.

DIG IN ANCIENT GRAVE—INDIAN SKELETONS FOUND IN DAKOTA BELIEVED BURIED IN 1200 A. D.

Mitchell, S. D.—Nine Indian skeletons, believed to have been interred in the tribal burial hole about 1200 A. D., were uncovered by students of the Dakota Wesleyan biological department in the Arickaree Indian village north of Mitchell April 25. Maurice Deller and Wallace Coatsworth, in charge of excavations, have been working in the village for several days.

Little is known of the Indians who built the mounds, but if they were Arickarees, as is believed, this village is the only one of its kind discovered so far from the Missouri river.

The skeletons were in a fair state of preservation. Most of the skulls, however, showed marks of violence, as if the Indians had been tortured by fire or struck in the head with blunt instruments. Beads, arrowheads and other trinkets were also discovered in the mounds by the students.

To the University of Nebraska geological collection of minerals have recently been added six hundred specimens gathered from the mines of South Dakota, Wyoming and Utah by Prof. E. F. Schramm. Specimens of sixty distinct minerals were taken from a spodumen mine in the Black Hills. Spodumene is the source of most of the lithium of commerce. Most of the world's supply comes from this one South Dakota mine.

INDIAN RELICS ARE UNEARTHED IN NORTH GEORGIA HILLS.

Dr. Warren K. Moorehead, archaeologist of Andover Academy, Andover, Mass., has returned north with some of the most amazing finds of Indian relics ever unearthed in the North Georgia hills.

Stone coffins, beads of brilliant hue—carved sea shells—and stones native in far away lands—have been found by Moorehead and his assistants in their four-year search for relics of early American life.

Not least among the finds was the recent one of a sword hilt, guard and remnant of a blade—believed the weapon of one of Hernando de Soto's band of Spanish explorers, or possibly of the Spanish leader himself.

At various times since 1923 Dr. Moorehead has led parties of archaeologists who sought to wrest the secrets of modes of living—customs—religious beliefs and culture of early Americans from the mounds found in North Georgia.

Recently he explored mounds near Carter's Quarters, Ga. There he found stone pots other cooking utensils, polished sea shells that indicated a highly civilized race of Indians once inhabited the hills. In actual period of elapsed time the antiquity of the race is not great.

Finding of remains of a ceremonial hut was one of the most important contributions to the fund of knowledge of early Indian life made by the Moorehead party. In the hillside were found cedar posts, still in a condition of preservation which indicated a treatment with clay or some substance to insure longevity.

Beside the crumbled wooden walls were beads, stone mauls, pots and arrow heads, while in the center of the one-time burial chamber was the skeleton of an Indian—believed to have been a chieftain. Beside the right arm was found the sword—one of the unique and unexpected "treasures" dug up.

In dairies ascribed to members of De Soto's party that explored America in the sixteenth century mention is made of a visit to the village of Chiahua, said to have been on the present site of Rome, Ga., not far from where the sword was found.

De Soto in 1540 undoubtedly led his men across what is now Georgia—westward to the Mississippi. This gives credence to the ownership of the sword—as Dr. Moorehead considers the graves contemporary with that period.

The Indians were believed sun worshippers. Twelve skeletons, a stone dagger, thousands of shell beads and a human effigy were among the finds made by the Moorehead party.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL NOTES.—By George J. Remsburg, Porterville, Calif.

The fine archaeological collection of Dr. J. M. S. Chesshir, of Superior, Neb., was recently placed on exhibition in a show window there and the local paper said of it: "The complete collection of Indian relics on display in the window of Mullet's store is attracting much attention. "Doc" has the collection very artistically displayed. By the aid of miniature lamps in the eye crevices of the skulls, etc., the collection is given a wierd appearance at night."

Spain has a rock painting dating back to prehistoric times showing two men climbing a rope ladder to get honey from a bee's nest.

Deyo Bower recently found on the farm of his grandfather, Ferdinand Bower, five miles south of Fairbury, Neb., a small bronze figure in armour,

attached to a chain with a snap. It was washed out of the bank of Rose creek by heavy rains. The relic is believed to be of Spanish origin.

Plans of archaeologists to resume investigation of ancient burial grounds on the Pyramid Lake Indian reservation in Nevada have been definitely checked by the medicine men of the Piute tribe. Efforts of federal and state agencies to gain permission of the council of aged warriors for resumption of excavation in the vast caves bordering the lake have failed, and it is probable the project will be abandoned until the younger Indians gain control of the reservation. Dr. M. R. Harrington and other scientists stated the researches were yielding results of great interest to archaeologists when the Indians forced the workers to leave the caves, with a possibility the investigation may have shed important light on the early history of Western America.

Robert J. Casey, author, explorer and lecturer, told ship reporters upon his arrival in New York, that in his travels through the dense jungles of Indo-China, he discovered the ruins of an immense uninhabited city. Because his native guides deserted him and a deep moat infested with crocodiles surrounded the ruins he was unable to make any observations.

Traces of Hernando De Soto's expedition through north Georgia were believed discovered near Carters, Ga., recently when a belt, guard and part of a blade of an iron sword were unearthed in an Indian mound by Dr. Warren K. Moorehead, head of the department of archaeology of Phillips academy, Andover, Mass., according to an Associated Press report. The part of the sword was found amid a score of skeletons and ceremonial relics which Dr. Moorehead declared were of pre-Columbian age which he considered most significant.

Moundsville, W. Va., owes its name to Brave Creek Mound, 79 feet high and 820 feet in circumference, the largest prehistoric monument of its kind in America. Many objects of interest, including a stone bearing inscriptions which have never been deciphered, were found in partial explorations of the mound's interior.

An ancient iron casket belonging originally to one of the Cortez band of warriors who came to America in 1541 to explore this land and report to Spanish rulers the value of the new continent, is in the possession of David Edwards of Arkansas City, Kan. Edwards bought the casket as a relic from the wife of H. C. Winders, Arkansas farmer, who found it about thirty years ago while plowing land near the Mississippi river. The box evidently was the property of a nobleman, for it bears a crest in the wrought iron. A shield, a broken sword, a name plate and faint traces of letters, worn down by erosion of shifting sands and water are on the casket. The casket probably was buried in the Mississippi. The river, always shifting, in 386 intervening years, changed its bed. The spot where the casket was found was more than a mile from the present river, but sand loam shows it was once the course of the stream.

The largest Bible in the world is exhibited in the National Library at Stockholm. It is hand-lettered and beautifully illuminated, and its pages are more than six feet high. Opened, it has a spread across both pages of nine feet.

Probably the smallest Bible was printed in Glasgow in 1895. A single sheet of thinnest India paper, 24x38 inches, was required for each copy, and when completed the little book was three-fourths of an inch tall. Each one was fitted into a tiny locket with an enlarging glass for reading.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS EXPLORE INDIAN MOUND AT CARTER'S, GA.

Last month a party of scientists who have been investigating the Etowah mounds near Cartersville, Ga., came to the Coosawattee valley at Carters and located upon the old Indian site. Mr. Carter and Mr. R. P. Messer gave permission to Dr. Warren K. Moorehead and Mr. Gerald Towle, the scientists in charge, to do the examining of the locality. Both men have explored Indian places before.

By noon they had done so well that they are returning here next month and will excavate upon a larger scale. They found four ancient Indian skeletons and some whole pottery vessels, some few beads and many arrow and spear heads upon the surrounding fields. They also hired boys to hunt for relics and paid the youngsters. These relics will be placed in Emory Museum collection at Atlanta and a museum in Columbus, Ga., and a few sent east.

The pre-history of the old Indian place at Carter's will be written up and known through these investigations. All citizens are urged to tell the scientists of any Indian caves or mounds so that they may visit them, explore and preserve these interesting old relics before they are scattered and lost.—Sent by Kendrick.

RARE INDIAN RELIC RESTORED IN MUSEUM.

The director at the Hastings Neb., museum has just finished restoring one of the finest Indian relics seen in this part of the country. It is a large wooden mortar made from a cedar log ten inches long which stands on three legs. A year previous to buying the farm upon which he discovered the Pike-Pawnee Indian village, Mr. Hill was surveying the Indian cemetery south of the village and found that some parties had dug into a burial and, as is usually the case when amateurs dig into a grave, the contents lay scattered about on the ground. He at once saw that this mortar had been a wonderful specimen which now lay in many pieces with the marks still showing where it had been ruthlessly hacked with a spade. He carefully gathered it up, even to the most minute pieces. Recently Mr. Brooking carefully sorted each piece and set it in place in papier mache which had been colored to match the wood. After several days of tedious work it now stands as perfect as when it was buried as the cherished possession of some Indian brave. Wooden mortars are rare in all museums, not because they were not in common use among the plains Indians but from the fact that they were so perishable that they did not withstand the tests of time.

INDIAN RELICS.—By C. W. Hamilton, Brimfield, Ill.

Along the paved road from Peoria, Ill., to Galesburg, fifty miles, now in process of completion, many Indian graves and stone relics have been exposed by excavations and grading. I have been fortunate to make many collections of these relics and in tracing the position of numerous mounds convenient for future exploration. The route of this road is along the old Indian trail from the upper Mississippi river to Lake Peoria at the Illinois river where the Kickapoo, Illini (Illinois) and other tribes dwelt from time.

On Lake Peoria was situated Fort Creous and old Fort Clark of early history and where Joliet, Marquet and the Jesuit Fathers tarried on their missions.

A further description of the finds along this state road, positions of the mounds, Indian graves, etc., will be given as the road nears completion.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

HAS BIG COLLECTION.

Albion, Neb., Argus: "What's in a name," once mused a poet. But today folks don't muse on things like that, they give the other fellow a nickname if his name doesn't suit him.

When Savannas Bascum Morehead, clerk of the district court here, found he was hobbled by that name he began collecting relics of all kinds as a hobby to make him forget his plight. Then along came a kind friend and nicknamed him "Van," but he kept right on gathering relics until now he has a collection of pioneer material, as well as something from practically every country in the world.

Just what Mr. Morehead will do with these valuable relics he has not determined. He is crowded for room to display them properly and as he said, some superstitious folks were afraid to come into the office.

If the country or town had a room or would provide one some of the best history of the early days and the settlement here would be preserved to Boone county, Nebraska.

LOSES A LINCOLN LETTER.

A letter written by Abraham Lincoln in 1859, one of the most treasured historical papers in Kansas City, Kas., was lost by Mrs. W. H. Millikan, its owner. Mrs. Millikan asked the police yesterday to aid her in the search for it.

She had kept the letter several years in a desk in her home, 2935 North Twenty-seventh street, until last February, when friends induced her to lock it in a safety deposit vault in a bank.

She took some papers from the bank and among them the letter. The other papers were found in the lobby of a theater, but the Lincoln letter and several other historical documents were missing.

Mrs. Millikan already has established her ownership of the letter. She said it would be of no use to anyone else. She received the letter through her husband's family. He died nine years ago.

UNEARTH BISON TOOTH AGES OLD.

Further evidence that men lived on the North American continent from 500,000 to 1,000,000 years ago may be found in a fossil bed recently uncovered near Scottsbluff, Neb., Dr. Harold J. Cook of the Colorado Museum of Natural History says.

Thorough investigation of the bed by scientists cannot be undertaken until the ground thaws in the spring, he said. First hint of the existence of the bed came when Murray Welton, Scottsbluff high school student, picked up a bison tooth while wandering in the badlands southwest of the city.

Previous discoveries of human remains dating back perhaps 1,000,000 years have been made during recent years in deposits near Fulsom, N. M., Frederick, Okla., and in Mitchell county, Texas.—Beals.

A LINCOLN LETTER SELLS FOR \$2,900.

Philadelphia—An autographed letter of Abraham Lincoln referring to the application of the emancipation proclamation brought \$2,900 at auction here.

Mr. Howard M. Grant of Providence, R. I., writes that he recently bought an uncut sheet of Rhode Island Colonial paper money, consisting of \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5, \$7, \$8 and \$20 notes.—The Numismatist.

COINS! COINS! COINS!**Commemorative ½ Dollars.**

1892 Columbia Ex. ½ Dollar, unc	\$1.00
1893 Columbia Ex. ½ Dollar, unc.	1.00
1915 Panama Pacific ½ Dollar, unc.	15.00
1918 Lincoln, Illinois ½ Dollar, unc	1.50
1920 Maine	1.75
1920 Pilgrim	1.50
1921 Pilgrim	1.50
1921 Missouri, star	4.00
1921 Missouri, no star	7.50
1919 Alabama, with cross	2.50
1919 Alabama, no cross	1.75
1922 Grant, with star	4.00
1922 Grant, no star	1.50
1923 Monroe Adams	1.25
1924 Huguenot-Wallon	2.00
1925 Lexington-Concord	1.25
1925 Stone Mountain	1.25
1925 Norse American	1.50
1925 California Jubilee	2.50
1926 Sesqui Centennial	1.50
1926 Oregon Trail	1.50
1926 Oregon Trail, s.	1.50
1927 Bennington, Vermont	1.50
1900 Washington-Lafayette Dollar	4.00
1915 Panama Pacific Gold Dollar	4.00
1922 Grant Gold Dollar, with star	4.00
1922 Grant Gold Dollar, without star	4.50
1926 Sesqui Centennial \$2½ Gold.	4.50

U. S. COINS.

Large Cents, 10 diff. dates including some over 100 years old	\$1.00
Copper Nickel Cents, 1857-64 inclusive, 8 dates .....	.60
3 Cents, Nickel, 1865-1889, 10 different dates .....	.85
Nickel Five Cent Pieces, old type, 5 diff. dates .....	.65
Old Dimes, 10 diff. dates	1.75
Old ¼ Dollars .....	.40
Old ½ Dollars, over 100 years old .....	.65
Trade Dollars (getting scarce) ..	1.10
Civil War Cents, 10 diff.	1.00
Dollars, Liberty seated	1.50
Gold Dollars	3.00
Gold 2½ Dollars, Liberty head ..	3.50
Gold 3 Dollars	6.50
Large Cent, flying eagle Cent, copper nickel Cent, 2-Cent piece, 3 Cent nickel, 3 Cent silver, old Nickel, ½ Dime, civil war Cent and Hard Times token, set 10 coins, special	1.00
Cent 1922, D., unc. ....	.35

A FEW SCARCE AND RARE FOREIGN COINS

German East Africa ½ Hellar, obsolete .....	.10
Russia, 2 kopecks over 100 years old .....	.15
Russia, 5 kopecks, some 150 years old, very large copper .....	.35
England ½ Penny, 150 to 200 years old .....	.15
Guatemala ¼ Real, one of world's smallest silver coins .....	.15
Austria, 1 Kreutzer, over 100 years old .....	.10
Ancient Roman and Greek Coins, 1500 to 2000 years old .....	.35
England Imitation Gold Guinea, bright, new and very attractive, 1797 .....	.15
England—½ Penny Tokens, dated before 1800, historical portraits, odd mottoes, etc. Very interesting, 25c each, 5 for	1.00

COINS IN SETS, ETC.

12 uncirculated foreign Copper Coins, all diff. ....	.25
100 foreign Copper, Nickel and Silver Coins, all diff., including some 2000 years old, a nice collection	3.75
Italy, 5-10-20 Centimes, Copper and Nickel .....	.10
Italy, 20 centimes, 1 Lira and 2 Lira .....	.25
France, ½-1 Franc-2 Francs, Orlo .....	.25
France, 5-10-25 Centimes, nickel ..	.10
Mexico, 1-2-5 Centavos, nickel ..	.10
Austria, 1 Dollar and 2 Dollars, copper .....	.10
Jamaica, ¼-½-1 Penny, nickel ..	.15
Panama, ½ and 2½ Centesimos, nickel .....	.10
Germany, 1-2-5-10 Pfennig .....	.10
China, 3 diff. sizes of brass cash ..	.10
Brazil, 50-100-200 Reis, large nickel coins .....	.20
Belgium, 5-10-20 Centimes, nickel ..	.15
Cuba, 1-2-5 Cents, nickel .....	.15
Hungary, 10-20 Filler, nickel ....	.08
Austria, 10-20 Hellar, nickel ....	.08
Sweden, 1-2-5 Ore, copper .....	.10
Germany, 5-10 Pfennig, iron ....	.08

At these special prices I cannot accept orders for less than 1 dollar and postage extra on all orders.

I do not issue any catalogues but shall be pleased to quote prices to all serious collectors and send coins on approval to responsible parties, as I have a fine stock of coins always on hand. Am in the market for the purchase of rare single items or entire collections of coins and stamps for cash.

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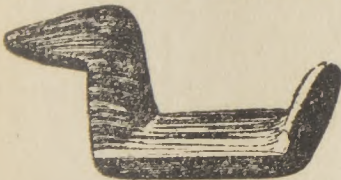
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Our warehouse and offices will be closed from May 15th until September 1st. We will not be here to make any shipments or answer any correspondence between these dates. We leave May 15th for a motor trip through the entire western part of the United States, and on this trip will call on all dealers or collectors having anything in the Indian line they wish to dispose of. Write us at once and tell us where you are and what you have but do not expect any answers if your letter reaches us after May 15th.

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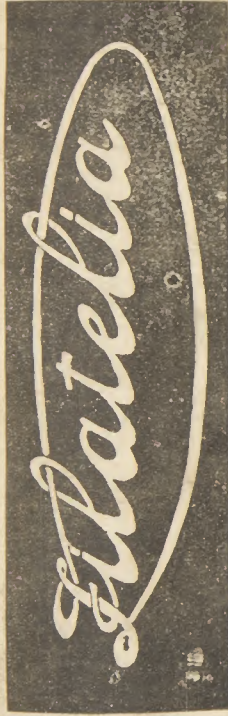
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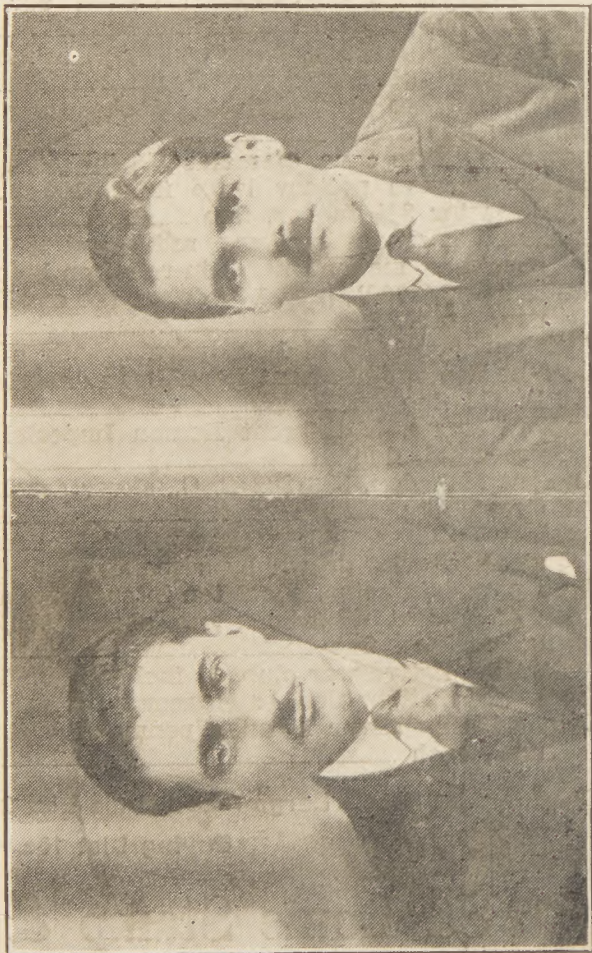
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VOLUME 87

NUMBER 1

OCTOBER, 1928



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A Few Items Selected at Random From

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BAHAMAS		1859 Thin paper, 1d lake S.G.2, catd. 70	30 -
"		1883 "Fourpence" on 6d violet S.G. 45 fine used, catd. 85	37 6
"		1884-98 £1 Venetian red S.G. 57 fine used	25|-
"		1918 "War Tax" 1|- grey and carmine fine mint	20|-
BRITISH EAST AFRICA		on 4½ annas S. G. 56, mint, cat'd. 60|-	25|-
"		1894 5a on 8ans. S.G. 42 fine mint, catd. 35|-	12|6
"		1894 7½a on 1 rup. S.G. 43 fine used, cat. 35|-	15|-
"		1895 on India 12a variety "T" for "i" in Africa S.G. 108	30|-
"		1897 on Zanzibar set of 6 mint S.G. 129-134	65|-
BRITISH GUIANA		1889-90 1c to 06c mint set of 10	30|-
CANADA		1858 imperf 7½c green S. G. 22	£8 10 0
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE Triangle		1d red on blue S.G.2 very fine....	30|-
"		1855-8 1d rose very fine	20|-
"		1855-8 1d rose very fine	20|-
"		1855-8 4d blue fine used S.G.9	10|-
"		1855-8 4d blue	7|6
"		1855-8 6d lilac red postmark v. fine	45|-
"		1855-8 6d lilac good copy	20|-
"		1855-8 1|- yell. green fine used copy	40|-
"		1855-8 1|- yell. great medium copy	30|-
"		1855-8 1|- deep dark green fine ..	45|-
"		1861 Woodblock 1d carmine S.G.21	£9 10 0
"		1863-4 4d blue nice copy	12|-
"		1863-4 1|- emerald good copy	50|-
"		1874 1d on 1|- green S. G.63	12|-
"		1879 3d on 4d blue Error THE.EE SG.64b	£5 10 0
"		1882 ½d on 3d C.C. S.G.73 fine copy	95|-
"		King Ed. 5|- mine, catd. 25|-	12|-
CEYLON		1857-9 6d pur. brown S.G. No. 11 fine copy	40|-
"		1857 blue glazed paper ½d lilac S.G.3, cat'd. £30	£9 10 0
"		1885 5c on 24c green S.G. 153 fine used, catd. 60|-	25|-
"		1885 10c on 24c green S.G. 162 fine used, catd. 80|-	35|-
"		1885 20s and 24c green S.G. 165 fine used, catd. 20|-	10|-
"		1899 2r 25c on 2r 50c yellow fine mint S.G. 225	45 -
"		1912-25 10r purple and black on red	15 -
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NIGER COAST		1893 ½d on 2½d in vermillion S.G. 17 mint	22 6
"		½d on 2½d in green S.G. No. 10 mint	42 6
"		½d on 2½d in blue S.G. 13	45|-
"		½d on 2½ in vermillion S.G. 15c used	22|6
"		½d on 2d S.G. No. 16	42|6
"		1|- on 2d in violet S.G. No. 30 used on piece	45|-
"		1|- on 2d in vermillion S.G. No. 31	47|6
"		1894 ½d on 2½ d S.G. No. 162	55|-
NORTH WEST PACIFIC		1918 "One Penny" on 5d mint Type "A" or "C"	27 6
"		1918 "One Penny" on 5d mint Type "B"	32 6
"		1918 "One Penny" on 1 -	35 -

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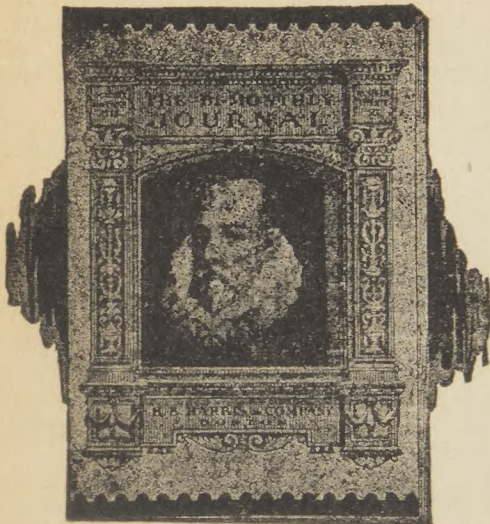
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(Seal)

C. HOUT, Notary Public.

VOLUME 87

OCTOBER 1928

NUMBER 4

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Echon, Pa. Think West very good. Sure helps collectors most of any.

Watts, Miss. Get better results from West of any.

Young, N. Y., says can't do business without the West and wants all his old ads run and has another new one.

Hartman, Kas., says West is best publication of its kind in the field and wishes it was a weekly. He runs a daily paper.

D. Callahan Book Co., Salt Lake, says West is best of its kind on earth

Glad to see Canadian Philatelist. Finest paper we have seen from Canada.

Italiano Annual Filatelico, 27 and 28 edition, is best book seen from this country. Guess got out by Italian paper we have had page ad for year or more. Send for copy of this finest paper.

Jamaica Philatelist, organ of society there, is well worth getting a copy.

Nice first day covers of Tospern & Leve and others was received. Glad to see others.

John Edwin Morse, who has ad in this number, gets out some fine Lincoln

postcards and some fine photos of Lindberg and his mother as well as fine poster of American popular hero.

May sent bill of relic and curio show at Meredosia, Ill. Like to hear of others held.

E. C. Dean, North East Pa., reports large duck pipe from Georgla, ten and one-fourth inches long, four inches high and weighs three and three-fourths pounds. Hope to use cut of this interesting pipe.

Wholesale lines pays get Harris & Grossman or Wallace and Ross Shiells and Norris Co. catalogs.

Norway No. 1, the pet Scandahoovian of all of 'em, has finally reached \$4.50 used. The Norse wholesalers ask \$3 a throw for copies with fair margins so that the price is still too low by a dollar or two. No. 7 has a well-deserved rise of \$2 used and \$3 unused. Really fine copies of this stamp are very, very scarce, and deserve close to catalog. No. 13 is another scarce stamp that is stationary. Fine ones are hard to get and bring a high percentage of catalog. However, we must back up a bit for Nos. 2 and 3. No. 2 now lists \$3 for some esoteric reason. Why not twice this? Finely centered copies are vastly scarcer than fine copies of No. 1, and leaving out popularity, there are many fine shades of No. 2 to cut down the visible supply. Besides, there were only half as many issued as of No. 1, so why not a higher price? No. 3 has been boosted 50c and is still too cheap. No. 4, the 4sk, is being rounded up in large numbers by the accumulator gang, and pretty soon you may be able to get a copy of this stamp for the price of a quart of pre-war stuff. No. 33 at \$1 is certainly too low; present wholesale is considerably over half catalog. The North Pole stamps, with a face value of 20c, list \$1.22, over six times face and about twice what the speculators who were allowed to buy the bunch ask for them. This issue was a bad bull in spite of the bear on it. The Spitzbergen issue seems to be too low, judging from wholesale quotations, but everyone had a chance at it.—Gossip.

THE SOWER.—By Holney Catch.

One half of the world does not know how the other half lives, and has the same amount of knowledge as to how its own half lives. We eat our dally bread and give no thought to the varied operations that enable the baker to make our loaves for us. There is no need to remain in this ignorance, the light of true knowledge.

This common stamp of Poland has a representation of a sower sowing the seed corn that is to become our daily bread later on. How can he ensure that his seed shall not fall on the hard surface, there to be devoured by the fowls of the air, one of which may be seen waiting for it at the right lower corner of the picture? How shall he contrive that his labor be not spent in vain? Here we are taught how it is done. The war is over. The Polack uses his sword in place of a ploughshare and, as seen in the picture, with it he makes innumerable holes in the frozen soil to receive the grains of corn. Then, with a skill acquired only by long practice, he shoots with wonderful aim the grains into the holes he has prepared for them, encouraged in the belief in a rich yield in the time of harvest by the rainbow of hope that is to be seen in the background. Until this stamp made known to us this operation, we never suspected that such was one of the processes that contributed to the supply of our daily bread.—Harris.

NEW AIR MAIL ISSUES COMING SOON.

The interest in air stamps, and especially in what are known as "flown covers," has received a great stimulus from Colonel Lindbergh's recent goodwill aerial tour embracing a dozen states in Central and South America, and the West Indies.

Costa Rica, Panama, and Cuba issued special stamps in the Colonel's honor, but as comparatively few have reached Europe it may be useful to collectors here to know that the Costa Rican stamp is the scarcest, selling at about 16s, the pair of Panama stamps, 2 and 5 centimos, at 1s. 6d., and the Cuban 5 centavos at 6d. Letters carried by Lindbergh are fetching high prices.

The German trans-Atlantic flyers probably sacrificed mail to reduce weight, although they carried a few messages. Captain G. H. Wilkins, however, carried a special mail of 100 letters on his successful trip across the North Pole to Spitzbergen. These letters he carried by arrangement with Mr. A. C. Roessler, a New Jersey stamp dealer, who paid him \$1,000 for taking them. They were postmarked at Point Barrow, and were to be "back-stamped" (with the arrival postmark) at Spitzbergen. The dealer offered them in advance on subscription terms at \$20 a letter, and the post-flight price will show a substantial advance on that figure. Some letters carried by Wilkins last year and sold on similar terms now fetch \$30.

There have been some developments in the Mexican air mail. A 50 centavos air post stamp has been in existence for some years, but it was only this April that the service of national air lines opened between Mexico City, Tampico and Tuxpan. A letter despatched by this service on the first day, April 15, reached me recently, having travelled from Mexico City to Tampico, Brownsville, San Antonio (Texas), Chicago, and New York chiefly by air. It bears the new 25 centavos air post stamp, printed in red and brown, in the same flying eagle design as the 50 centavos blue and carmine issued in 1922.

The rate for letters carried by air within Mexico is now 25 centavos and from Mexico to the United States 75 centavos. The ordinary mail time between Mexico City and New York is from seven to ten days; the air mail covers it in three days, and this will probably be reduced to two days.

Peru also sends us a new air stamp, her second. The first, issued in December last for flights between Lima and Iquitos, consists of the 50 centavos mauve stamp of 1925 overprinted "Servico Aereo," of which only 3,000 were printed. The new stamp is a specially engraved one, printed by the American Bank Note company. The value is 50 centavos, and the color deep green.—Fortnightly.

AROUND THE WORLD AGAIN

John Henry Mears who is flying around the world to break the world's record of 28½ days took off from the Battery in N. Y. harbor to catch the SS Olympic when the ship was off Nantucket. The transfer was safely made. When the ship is 400 miles from Cherbourg, Mears will climb into his monoplane, "The City of New York," and fly to Paris.

In doing the double hop Mr. Mears is conferring an unusual favor upon the collectors a shore-to-ship and a ship-to-shore combination cover that is unique. Yes, you guessed it—a small packet of mail is being carried. The trip is being sponsored by the Hearst newspapers. The stamp dealer paid Mears \$1,000 for carrying a pound of mail.—Roessler's Stamp News.

THE ORIGIN OF WALLACE BROTHERS

In 1891 Mr. J. Wallace, at the age of 18, opened the first stamp shop in Melbourne (the second stamp shop in Australia). He took premises in Collins street, the principal street of Melbourne, and, being of an ambitious age, thought his name was not large enough, so Wallace Brothers was put on the facia.

After three successful years, he returned to England, and at the age of 21, opened a London shop at 59 Finsbury Pavement, now re-named Moorgate.

In 1904 he commenced a wholesale price list, the first publication being two pages. Today it is the largest list published in the world and contains 84 large pages of close-printed offers and bargains. One weekly philatelic newspaper writes:

"A RECORD WHOLESALE LIST.—Messrs. Wallace Bros. have just published what is undoubtedly the largest wholesale price list of cheap mixtures, packets, etc."

April 23, 1920, was a great day in the history of Wallace Bros. At 58 London Wall we opened the largest philatelic shop in London, and we have been told we could easily claim "the largest in the world." When we opened one magazine wrote:

"London is the richer in stamp shops by reason of the new premises opened in London Wall by Messrs. Wallace Brothers, and claimed to be the largest stamp shop in London. We have certainly not gone over it with a tape measure, but we do not think there need be much doubt as to the accuracy of the claim, for the premises occupied are those of a large double-fronted shop with a wide entrance, giving excellent facilities for the display of stamps, of which Messrs. Wallace Bros. have taken full opportunity. The interior fittings are both convenient and elaborate, and reveal a degree of enterprise that deserves the reward of a largely increased clientele."

They have sold since 1900, namely, 2,500,000,000, if placed end to end, would go nearly twice around the world.

For the last 20 years they have held the largest stock in the world of stamps. Today they have about 365,000,000 stamps in stock. They still hold their claim to above and challenge anybody in any part of the globe to dispute this fact. Send for their free catalogue.

SCHOOLBOY'S LUCKY "FIND" OF OLD INDIAN STAMPS

That the days of lucky "finds" in unsuspected quarters of rare old postage stamps are not yet passed was strikingly demonstrated in a London auction room a week or two ago when a unique block of nine unused copies of the first Indian stamp was knocked down for the respectable sum of \$950. It is the largest piece known of this particular variety, and to this is due the fact that the figure realized was almost double the total value of the individual specimens of which the block was composed.

The fortunate discoverer of this valuable item was a twelve-year-old school-boy living at Newton Abbott, who came across an unsevered sheet of seventeen stamps in the back of an old Bible. He had already disposed of a number of single copies cut from the whole at \$5 apiece before a more experienced collector managed to secure the remainder, consisting of one large block of nine and a strip of three. The former was sent to Strand stamp auctioneers, with the satisfactory result already described. The strip of three is to come up for sale at a later date.

STAMP DEALERS' BOURSE IN LONDON—WHY NOT IN AMERICA?

An International stamp dealers' bourse was opened in London, being limited to buying, selling and discussion among dealers, and is in no sense an exhibition intended to attract collectors.

The advantage of dealers meeting together for the interchange of stamps has been widely recognized on the Continent and gatherings of the kind are held annually in France, Germany, and other countries. This is the first to be convened in London, and every effort has been made to secure a success that should bring to the stamp trade thousands of pounds worth of business hitherto transacted abroad. Seventy-five dealers from Great Britain, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Morocco, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States are taking part, and the value of the stamps represented by those who have tables is stated to amount to several million pounds. Dealers from all parts of the country are attending the bourse so as to form their own views of the facilities which are offered by such a gathering.

The bourse is a quiet affair of conversations and the inspection of books, but there is a social side when a dinner and dance for stamp dealers and their friends was held.

BRIGHTER MEETINGS.

A bulletin of the Chicago Precancel Stamp Club says: It is certainly very dry to go to a meeting and have some chap give a long talk on his stamps, and show you some wonderful stuff which the average collector can never hope to own, and I note this seems to be the feature of many stamp meetings now-a-days.

"Dear Friend and Member.—This Friday's meeting will be a swap and stamp talk meeting. . . . Be sure and come; let's have a good old time meeting, and don't forget to wear that smile. Let's be true hobbiests, let's all get together with that good old spirit, we who enjoy such a wonderful hobby, attend your meetings, and, above all, boost your hobby all the time."

That's the spirit!—"P. M."

LONDON STAMP EXCHANGE.

The first international stamp bourse held in London was opened last June. Seventy dealers, representing fifteen different countries, including France, Belgium, Germany, the United States, Holland, Italy, Switzerland and Morocco, were congregated for an interchange of stamps. Stamps totalling \$25,000,000 in value were brought to the exchange.

Although these bourses have been held in other countries, this is the first to be held in England. The aim of the promoters is to make London the world center for stamp transactions.

THE KING'S HOBBY OF VALUABLE RARITIES.

Fred J. Melville says that in June stamp collectors had a glimpse of the richly-filled albums of the king, who retains his life-long enthusiasm for a pursuit commenced in boyhood. Many years ago the king wrote to a friend that stamp collecting was one of the greatest pleasures of his life, and it remains to this day the pleasant relief to which he turns in the rare half-hours of his leisure. His collections, which now fill more than 100 large albums, represent his patient gathering and judicious selection over nearly fifty years.

NORWAY

The new air post stamp shows a monoplane in flight over the Akershus, which is an historic old fortress near Oslo. Its design is very effective, and it gives probably the best suggestion of "atmosphere" of any air mail stamp that has yet appeared, the sky of the picture being left clear save for the presence of the aeroplane, and the inscription "NORGE" flanked by "LUFT POST" and "45 ORE," in uncolored letters, having a place at the bottom of the stamp. Norway's previous issue that depicted a flying aeroplane, dates from 1925, seven denominations, from 2 to 25 ore, that were issued for the purpose of raising money for Roald Amundsen's Arctic flight of that year.

King Haakon, though not himself a collector, has many times expressed his approval of our science and hobby, and at the first international stamp exhibition in Norway, organized by the Oslo Philatelic club three years ago in that capital, his Majesty, as Patron, attended the opening in person. The simple directness of this Air Post design may well serve as useful corrective to artists whose failing is over-elaboration.—Filatelia.

ADVERTISING CANCELLATIONS.—By M. Sorensen.

A fine cover has come to hand. It really has nothing to do with advertising cancellations, but I feel like making mention of it here anyhow. It is a "Lindbergh" cover, and one of the 200,000 pieces of air mail carried by Lindbergh's plane and five other ships which accompanied him on the flight February 20 from St. Louis to Chicago. It was the largest air mail shipment in the history of aviation. The St. Louis postmark is as usual at right end. At left end is a special postmark in the shape of a horse shoe, reading inside of outline of same: LINDBERGH AGAIN FLIES THE AIR MAIL. Inside of horse shoe device: Chicago St. Louis C. A. M. 2. Below where shoe gets narrower: ST. LOUIS, MO. 2-20-28.

Saskatoon, Sask., Canada, in 3 lines: YOUR POSTMASTER SELLS MAILING LISTS.

Winnipeg, Man., Canada, uses the same slogan in a 4 line device.

Sydney, Australia, in 2 lines: POST XMAS MAIL EARLY.

\$25,000,000 STAMP BOURSE

There are stamps worth more than \$25,000,000 at the International Stamp Bourse which opened in London. Similar stamp bourses have been held in almost every capital on the continent, but this is the first time London has received a visit.

Stamp dealers and collectors have come from all over the world to the Bourse, which will last three days. London, Paris, Berlin, Boston, Amsterdam, Brussels and Vienna are some of the cities represented.

ONLY ONE IN THE WORLD—PENNY STAMP OF SIXTIES FOUND.

Known as the "Full Face Queen's," printed in London in the sixties on unperforated sheets of 240 stamps, a penny postage stamp found at Christchurch, New Zealand, is believed to be the only one in existence. The fact that the sheet from which this stamp came had been perforated by a firm of Dunedin printers makes it the only known specimen, says London paper.

A stamp is to be issued by the Belgian government bearing the image of H. M. Stanley. The stamp will be issued during the visit of the King and Queen of the Belgians to the Belgian Congo.

THE KING OF ENGLAND IMPRESSES THE STAMP EXPERTS.

"He is a marvel of stamp knowledge," said a leading philatelist of the King, who visited an exhibition of rare stamps at the Royal Philatelic Society of London. His Majesty, who is patron of the society and a former president, spent an hour and a half looking at stamps which are valued at about \$1,250,000.00.

The King, assisted by Mr. E. D. Bacon, the curator of his own priceless collection of British Empire stamps, had selected for the exhibition several of his own world-famous stamps.

The royal visitor was particularly interested in a block of the famous two-penny "Sydney View" stamps of New South Wales, Australia, with the original gum intact.

The best stamps in the exhibition were said to be Mr. A. F. Lichtenstein's New York Post Office Mauritius. There were two examples of the 1d. and a 2d. stamp. Their value was estimated by an expert to be between \$30,000 and \$35,000.

A block of four red Cape of Good Hope wood-block stamps, containing what is known as the "fourpenny error," were other rarities that were instantly noted and appreciated by the King.

KING VISITS STAMP SHOW—SPECIMENS FROM HIS OWN COLLECTION

The King, who is an enthusiastic collector of stamps, visited the Royal Philatelic Society's display of rare stamps at London. Some remarkable specimens from his own collection were included in the display.

The exhibits have been assembled for the instruction of the representatives of seventy philatelic societies who are holding an Empire congress in London this week. "The value of the stamps exhibited is, roughly, over a million dollars," said an official of the society.

The stamps which the King has lent to the exhibition are mainly British. The best specimens are the I.R. Official 1902 of five shillings, ten shillings and one pound values in singles and pairs and used singles.

Three Mauritius stamps shown by Mr. A. F. Lichtenstein are valued at between \$25,000 and \$30,000, his pair of orange Post Office Mauritius, on one envelope, probably being worth more than any other two stamps in the exhibition.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS

Wallace Bros., publishers of Wallace's Illustrated Wholesale Standard Catalogue, the largest wholesale publication in the world.

The firm is conducted by Mr. John Wallace, founder, and his two sons, Herbert J. Wallace and Albert A. Wallace, who joined the firm in 1916.

Mr. John Wallace, accompanied by his wife, has just returned from a nine months' trip around the world, having spent over three months of same traveling through the United States of America, where they received a cordial welcome and had a very pleasant time with old and new friends in philately. Send for his catalogue.

FIRST CANADIAN AIR STAMP

A new 5 cent Canadian air stamp has just been issued. The design shows two winged female figures and an aeroplane above a globe showing a map of Canada, but the dull brown color of the stamp does not do justice to the design. It is the first Canadian air stamp.

HOW TO PRICE POSTMARKS.

Pricing postmark varieties brings the complication that the value of both the stamp and the postmark have to be considered. To make a list of prices for postmarks worth more than normal used copies has the disadvantage that two sets of figures—the normal and the “plus” value—are difficult to memorize, and the only satisfactory solution is to make a separate “used” price column for each postmark. This is beyond the capacity of the ordinary priced catalogue, unless the total number of postmarks is small, but it is quite within the scope of a specialized publication. It has, in fact, been done in Germany. The Norwegian Philatelic Society indicates the relative values of postmarks in its latest handbook by giving the populations of the towns, which is quite a clever idea provided that the populations are taken of the time when the stamps were current.—Philatelic Magazine.

MORE MONEY IN STAMPS.

Ever since the war the hobby of stamp collecting (or “philately”) has grown with phenomenal rapidity. Today it would be difficult if not actually impossible to find anywhere a city, town or village without its group of enthusiastic collectors.

A leading authority on stamps estimates that there are now approximately two million stamp collectors in the United States. And philately is still spreading. Every year more and more old-timers return to it, and thousands of newcomers discover the pleasures of this fascinating and contagious hobby.

The result of so much growth has been a greater demand for stamps than ever before. Even department stores and bookstores are now selling them.

STAMP LORE

Many were the stamp yarns re-heard at the London exhibition. There was the story (we put it into a book 25 years ago, and it is true) of the would-be clever American youth who had a 15 cent United States with center inverted, and took it to a dealer, complaining that he had sold him a bad stamp. The dealer exchanged it for a normal copy, and the youth, at a safe distance, called out, “Done yer again! I didn’t buy that bad stamp from you but from another dealer!”—Fortnightly.

STAMP COLLECTING.

Is the most profitable, fascinating and instructive of all hobbies. You will learn many more new things of interest and value. It will give recreation and rest to your mind from other work. A little investment in stamps will build a good fortune for you in a short time, because stamps increase in value day by day. Gets better most every way.

SHIP STAMPS.

There is an intense appeal, a stimulating romance in stamps that depict ships. One can almost detect the odor of cedar, of spices of far off countries—see the swarthy faces of ear-ringed lascar sailors. Did you know the rarest stamp in the world has a picture of a ship on it?

PEOPLE ONE DOES NOT FAIL TO MEET

Have you ever met a non-collector to whom you showed your collection who hadn’t a lot of old stamps somewhere at home?

POSTMARK VALUES.

The market value of numerous stamps has been increased by the attention that has been paid of late years to postmarks, and the tendency has by no means exhausted itself. Hong Kong stamps bearing the postmarks of the different ports have received particular attention of late, and we should not be surprised to find them priced in the catalogs. Jamaican postmarks have also been much sought for, and the new book on that country, due for early publication, will, we hope, indicate their relative scarcity. Cayman Islands, Solomon Islands, Papua, Gold Coast, Fiji, Barbados, British Guiana, Mesopotamia—these are all Colonies whose postal cancellations are few in number, and can therefore be recorded without too much difficulty. There are of course others not to mention foreign countries.—*Philatelic Magazine*.

STAMPS HONOR IBSEN.

Copies of new issue of Norwegian stamps, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Henrik Ibsen, noted author and dramatist, have been received by Robin Lampson, local collector. The stamps, of various denominations, bear pictures of Ibsen. According to Lampson, this is the first time that the picture of a private citizen of Norway has been used on the government's stamps.—*Fresno, Calif., Bee*.

MEMORIAL STAMPS

Special stamps have been issued in Latvia in memory of J. Chakste, the first president of the republic, who died on March 14, 1927. The stamps bear a fine portrait of the late president, and are sold at a premium which will be devoted to the erection of a monument to his memory. The limited issue was sold out at Latvian post offices on the day of its appearance.

A Kansas City collector had the good fortune to make a find. An original Confederate States cover postmarked Milledgeville, Ga., in black and franked with a horizontal strip of 5 Scott's number 207 all pencanceled. Scott's Specialized catalog lists covers of similar description at \$200.00. The cover was at one time no doubt the property of the late Frank J. Bescher prominent A. P. S. member here who died in 1912.—*C. S. Davis*.—*Gossip*.

48,707 STAMPS TO COLLECT

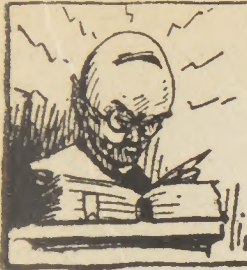
The twenty-eighth edition of English catalogue is out. The preface records the fact that 1,738 new stamps have been issued during the past twelve months, bringing the total now listed in this catalogue to 48,707.—*Postage Stamp*.

\$400 FOR 1s. STAMP

A magnificent copy of the 1s. reddish mauve stamp of New Brunswick 1851 issue, of brilliant color and with margins all around, lightly postmarked, realized the good sum of \$400 at London sale.

One and two-cent stamps are to shortly appear in the Canal Zone, bearing the portraits of General Gorgas and General Goethals, respectively. Also two new nickel coins of the denominations of five and two and one-half cents have been arranged for.

A 17th-century tract on Virginia by John Lederer, of only 18 leaves, realized \$1,300.00 at London sale and a third folio Shakespeare \$1,225.00.



INQUIRIES

It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over a issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

R. Paul Sweet, Trenton, N. J.: I have a United States \$5.00 gold coin milled in 1801 restamped with figure "2" in first class condition. Will you kindly advise me if Mr. Howard Miller, who lives southwest of Elmcreek, Neb., as per your March issue, still wants to buy this coin.

Ans.: I will ask Mr. Miller to reply direct.

J. N. Nowlin, Williamson, W. Va.: Please advise me as to where I can buy the reprints of the Ulster County Gazette, published at Kingston, Ulster county, by Samuel Freer & Son, January 4, 1800, as I want to buy these in large quantities at wholesale price.

Ans.: I regret to say that I do not know where such reprints can be bought in quantities. M. S.

Al C. Duree, Grand Island, Neb.: I have a copy of the "Daily Citizen," issued July 2, 1863. This is printed on the back of a piece of wall paper. Is it of any exceptional value?

Ans.: If it is genuine it has a value as a war time curio, but the country is full of fraudulent reprints of such papers, and it would take an expert to decide if your paper is genuine or not. M. S.

Mike Murray, No. 367, Hay Springs, Neb.: Am seeking information. Of what value are buffalo nickels that were made in the year of 1913 besides the value of five cents? Were the buffalo nickels made in 1913 called in at one time? And were there not a reward offered for them?

Ans.: No, there is no premium on this coin. Excepting the Trade Dollar, which was demonetized, was ever a coin, issued by the U. S. mints, "called in." Any money, issued by the treasury department is good today. M. S.

E. A. Stenroos, Belden, N. D.: How much is a one cent documentary stamp of 1898 (Battle Ship Maine) worth? It is on a bill of lading.

Ans.: This stamp is worth about 1 or 2 cents. M. S.

Andrew Lehn, Indianola, Neb.: I have a medal of General Grant, with his picture on one side and on the other it reads thus: "I propose to fight it out on this line, if it takes all summer." I want to know its value, and will you buy it?

Ans.: There it goes again about that value. To many collectors it seems to be the main object how much an article will bring in dollars and cents. Why not take an interest in the thing for its own sake and not for the sake of dollars. If that should be the main point in collecting we might as well be trading jack knives. And about the value—I have stated time and again that these stray pieces, or any other medal or coin. for that matter—have no

standard value. It is a case of demand and supply; of desirability and scarcity, which puts the value on anything. The medal in question is probably a campaign piece. But I am not in the market for it. You don't state the composition of the medal, and that is one reason why it is impossible to say anything about its possible value. M. S.

Math J. Landolp, Peebles, Wis.: We regret to say that we have no copy of Scott's catalogue of 1923 to spare. We have some older than that date, but none later. M. S.

O. Ivan Bussart, Paris, Ill.: I have for sale two old coins. Will you, please, quote prices on these? Copper cent, 1858, and half dollar, 1807.

Ans.: There are two varieties of each coin for the years given. The cent is worth about 25 cents, and the half dollar about 75 cents—provided they are in good condition. M. S.

Orville Gaudette, Concord, N. H.. Will you kindly let me know where I can purchase some advertising stamps such as are illustrated in center of West of the May, 1925, number. The caption under these stamps reads as follows. "Stamps taken from life poster." "Stamps sent by Mekeels Weekly." This is the only information I could find regarding them.

Ans.: I regret to say that I can give no information about this kind of stamps. M. S.

One of the prettiest and most interesting collections that it has been our privilege to see is the collection of Lincoln stamps made by Fred Norton of Los Angeles, Calif. Mr. Norton is an ardent admirer of the great man, and his collection is much larger than one would expect, considering the number of Lincoln stamps issued. Getting them in singles, pairs, covers, etc. is quite a job.—American Philatelist.

The Fort Worth Stamp and the Rare Coin Club of Fort Worth were consolidated recently under the new name of the Fort Worth Stamp and Coin Club. Officers elected were Claude Parker, president, and Dr. F. Merrill, secretary-treasurer. The club will hold its first meeting at 1010½ Main street Friday night, at which time a special exhibition of old and rare coins as well as stamps of various countries will be on display.—Star-Telegram.

Special stamps were issued in Sweden in honor of the seventieth birthday of King Gustav V, which falls on June 16. The set of five values were each be sold at a premium of 5 ore in aid of cancer research, in which His Majesty is deeply interested, and they will remain in circulation until the end of the year.—Bazar.

Collectors say H. E. Harris of Boston publishes one of the finest house organs in existence. There are just enough snappy editorials and news items to make the book interesting and practically every set and single copy offered is fully illustrated. It is such a good example of what a house organ should be that we take pleasure in recommending it to our readers.

The Italian journal, "Filatelia," recommends collectors to pay attention to the Indian Native States by reason of the tendency of the Indian authorities to reduce the number of states issuing special postage stamps.

PRECANCEL NOTES.—By A. F. Gamber.

In the last West I suggested various fields of precancel collecting, but I purposely omitted what to me is the most attractive field, because I wanted something left over to write about for this number. I refer to general collecting, or collecting everything in the precancel line. Since this is my chosen field now, lend me your ears and let me tell you how come. It's quite a story, as I think you'll agree when you have finished reading it.

Although I had saved precancels for some time, and had realized that there was a terrific kick in that hobby, it had never gotten me, if you get what I mean. But it was the black Harding that got me into it right. When that stamp appeared, I had the ambition to secure one mint top plate number block of each separate plate. You remember that the first printing was supposed to be the only one, and that, considering the popularity of the stamp and the size of this country, that first printing was not overly large. So I thought one mint block from each plate would be quite a nice collection, and that the forming of it would be an exciting chase. Then it occurred to me that I might sort of embellish that collection by adding a page or so of that stamp precancelled. About that time the second and very large printing was made in two perforations, and I saw that it would be a lifetime job ever to complete my plate number collection. I was just becoming intrigued with the idea of getting some Harding precancels, so the transfer of my ambition from plate blocks to precancels was perfectly natural, or so it seems to me. Anyway the transfer was made, and I chased black Harding precancels with hands and feet. As I said last quarter, the precancelling of this stamp was fearfully prostituted by favor seekers, a goodly percentage of these stamps never did postal duty at all, but were overprinted solely for collectors.

I continued the chase until the business of making favors got so darned rotten that I couldn't stand it any longer, then I began to wonder, "what next?" For I was a confirmed precancel collector by now, you see. The 14c stamp was just then beginning to get into circulation, and I was attracted to it by its odd value and because I was sure it would never be widely used nor common. I realized that there is one objection to this stamp—its solid blue color makes the handstamped impressions hard to read. But for all that, I went after it with wim and vigor. I found it to be just as hard to acquire as I had anticipated that it would be, but I have managed to get together the country's biggest collection of it, over 850 varieties at present. If you come to Chicago to the big exhibition at the Hotel Sherman on August 15, 16, 17, I'll show you some 14c that will make your eyes stick out. Then I became attracted to the big orange 15c Special Delivery stamp, its brilliant orange surface shows up any kind of overprint, and believe me when I say it's some hard stamp to get. In three years' time I have acquired around 100 varieties, more than anyone else has. Then I got the bug to collect Bureau Prints, no doubt this germ was in the air, it has bitten a lot of people who have always turned up their noses at precancels heretofore. But even with three irons in the fire I wasn't entirely satisfied. Once in a while a 14c would drift in, one-tenth of once in a while a 15c Special came along, and Bureaus seemed not so hard to get. But I felt the need of a bigger field. I wasn't satisfied to limit myself to just those three specialties. I pondered over specializing on some state or group of states, but somehow the proposition left me cold. Then came the event that showed me the way. I had a large collection of the 3c revalued stamped envelopes. You recall that during

the late war for democracy and other things, we were put on a 3c postage ration. After the war the immense 3c stamped envelope stocks were overprinted with 2's of varying styles and types. I collected these things for four years before I fell for precancels, as narrated above, and had accumulated what was regarded as one of the five best collections of these envelopes in the country. But I had never been able to get much kick out of having them. Ninety-nine collectors out of 100 want to show others what they have, talk about what they have. But how could I lug some ungodly big envelope albums to stamp meetings? And if I did make a drayhorse of myself and do this, who was there that knew or cared a hoot about them?

No one, so far as I was able to see. Furthermore, the collection had reached the point where I added a new one about twice a year. So in a fit of resolution I advertised, offering to trade myself clean out of revalued envelopes for a precancel collection, even steven, no postcard offers or pikers to be considered. Well, sir, I got a bite. A personal friend of mine in New York, who had collected precancels since 1909, and likewise envelopes, fell for my ad like a ton of bricks. He sent me his collection (well over 10,000), and I sent him my envelopes, and today we're still steady correspondents. Need I say more to prove that both were satisfied?

This gave me a good start on a general collection, I felt now that I was getting somewhere. A few months later one of the precancel old timers wrote me that advancing years and dimming eyesight were making it too much of a task to carry on his 28,000 variety collection, would I be in a buying mood? If so, he would be pleased to ship the works on for me to look at. To make this story short, we dealt, and I had a still better start on a general collection. Since then I have fallen for a small but very choice collection containing nothing since 1903, and for one of the country's most complete city type coil collections, so now I feel pretty well rounded out. I still keep my separate albums of 14c, 15c Specials, and Bureau Prints, they are so far along that it would be poor policy for me to drop them, besides, they all fit in with the general collection. This last winter I remounted the three collections referred to above (not the coils), using my spare time, it took me from October 20 to February 25. I still have to find time to remount the city type coil collection, combining what I had with what I recently purchased, then I'll feel that I'm all set. I hope to be able to get this remounting done in time to take the coil collection to Chicago with me in August, for I'm not a bit ashamed of it.

I see that I have used up all my space in telling you how I came to be a general precancel collector. The next bedtime story, in the next West will undertake to set before you some of the joys of general collecting, in the fond hope that some of you will likewise fall for it.—Valley City, N. D.

A STAMP BOURSE IN LONDON.

An interesting suggestion is that there ought to be organized in London an open-air stamp bourse similar to the one now on the Champs Elysees in Paris. Here, perhaps at one of the big London squares, collectors of stamps would be able to see the wares of all the smaller dealers and—the most important point—to exchange and bargain for specimens with other collectors. The idea is good but would probably become as bad as they are now at the Paris bourse, which is a hot-bed of fakes and forgeries. Why not try one in New York.

A GREAT HOBBY—MAKE THE BEST OF YOUR STAMPIC TREASURES.—

By Leonard A. Gibbens.

It is extraordinary what a number of people go through life without a hobby. The man without a hobby is to be pitied, in fact, I almost think he is a curious sort of individual. Without a hobby where are you in your spare time? True that some people are right, in a sense, when they tell you that no one can claim to be hobby free. If, when a man who has no definite hobby has done his day's work and comes home for an hour's rest, he sits with his hands before him—as the saying is—even then, he either reads or smokes to pass the time. Some will say in reading he is indulging in a hobby, but who would class that sort of amusement as a hobby?

A stamp collector very seldom has one hobby. Beyond his favorite pastime, which in this case is stamp collecting, other little things take up his spare time. Primarily his mind hovers around stamps; whatever else may take his fancy for the time being it never has all his attention for his thoughts are invariably always given to stamps and things philatelic. Lucky man. But stay, is he a lucky man? What is the true and accurate description of a real collector? Does his hobby entirely encompass him and monopolize his thoughts? Does he become a slave to it? Dreaming of it by day and by night, so that it becomes a mild worry? No; usually the thoughts of his pet hobby flit through his mind just when he has the time for it and is in the right mood to appreciate it.

Everyone can afford a hobby. A man has a certain amount of money, just enough to live upon in comfort maybe, and usually a little beyond that. He cannot forget that surplus. It worries him—burns a hole in his pouch, so to speak. Therefore, he stops in his tracks and looks around for something to spend it on. "Why not adopt a hobby," suggests somebody. A good idea, he votes, and straight-away pulls off his socks, tucks up his pants and wades into it. Jolly good luck to him; may he always find the "water" warm.

Of course, you cannot carry on a hobby and make a success of it without spending money. Some people appear to think you can. No doubt they do very well at it in their own way. They'll have a grandee collection, quantity will be there, and after all, quantity is all that matters to some collectors. Usually a quantity collection made for next to nothing is a very fine one consisting of all sorts of stamps, good, bad, indifferent, awful, worse than awful, shocking, frightful, awesome, etc., but no more, please.

However, the gist of the matter is you must spend some money to collect stamps properly. Some good folk expect to get together a nice collection worth money on an expenditure of a few pence a week. Quite possible, if they live to be as old as Moses, set themselves a date limit, and debar new issues. Each to his own liking, but don't spoil the chicken house for a penn'orth of pitch. If you do, the rain will get in, the hens get the croup, turn nasty tempered, won't lay, and in all probability, worse will befall them. Moral—stamp collecting is a great and splendid game—make the best of it.—West-End Philatelist.

SPEAKING OF COVERS

So many collectors are just going in on air covers that we think it right to say (to our mind) the stamps that are used on air covers do not add one bit to the value. Oh, yes, it makes cover attractive—we grant that, but in a money way it's postmarks front and back that count.

SIDELINE COLLECTING.—By Oscar T. Hartman.

The general collector of postage stamps considers anything not a postage stamp not worth collecting or may have a lenient commiseration for those who do collect sidelines. Let us take a specialist, who is an ardent collector of U. S. 1908-12-17-19 in all its ramification, like o. g., used, pairs, blocks, etc. He says he is not a sideline collector but in reality he is a bloater. This he stoutly denies also. T'so it goes. But what is a sideline? Let us say you are a collector of U. S. postage stamps and revenues, taxpays, state revenues, envelopes and postcards below your consideration, nevertheless not adverse, coming your way, without effort, a nice block of four, or a kicking mule cancellation, or a distinct brown cancellation you devote a page or several of them and are proud of them. They are sure a sideline.

To consider all possible sidelines in adjunct to your hobby—the postage stamp—would require a book. So let's in your case confine solely to U. S. postage and see what sideline could be offered: 1—Cancellations. 2—Blocks, pairs, etc. 3—Straight edges (outline). 4—Compound of all three above.

1. Cancellations offer a wide field from the early handstamp, often a smudge, to the present machine cancellations, which offer little of attraction, except possibly for a specialist. The distinct earlier becoming less from 1890 on as the machine cancellation replaces them on letter mail or postcards. With it the regret of the passing of the often odd cancellations, but the use of the handstamp is not diminished, plenty in use since the inauguration of the parcelpost. Precancels is one phase of cancellation. The meter stamp another. Then the modern time saving roller cancellation, easily mistaken as a precancel. The brush applied smudge—not exactly a thing of beauty.

Cancellations in different colors, like brown, green, red, blue, etc., often present quite an attractive combination and often enhance the value considerable. (Note: Anybody seen a machine cancellation any other except black? Not the meter.)

A modern outcome of the machine cancellation is the date cancellation, which must hit the stamp nearly in center to show the year, date of month and nearly all of the town of issue. In acquiring of this sideline, a clear impression, the chances are that you will spend many times over in time and outlay than what you actually pay for one.

Blocks, strips, pairs. Old pairs, etc., are scarce. Present pairs offer no particular difficulty, except you want them with a machine cancellation. The horizontal strips are preferred to those vertical ones. Why? Cannot say. Blocks of four are in quite a demand, still the advice holds good: Never reduce a large block to make a quicker sale. Blocks of 4, combined with strips of 3 interspersed with larger blocks present a pleasing attraction on any album leaf. Anything before 1890 presents value up to many times the price of a single stamp. Many of the present stamps are scarcer in blocks nicely cancelled than the o. g. blocks. In this classification you may put plate number, strips and booklet panes.

Straight edge (colored outer line). The stamp with a straight edge without showing plainly the colored outline is of inferior value. Anybody with a scissors could make a straight edge one. Excepting the commemoratives most of the stamps have been printed in sheets of 400 for many years, and afterwards cut up into sheets of 100. The present rotary printing stops the colored line as applied since 1895. Look at an original sheet of 400 and you see the colored line dividing the stamps into four sections. The cutting

machine hardly ever cuts the 400 exactly perfect, so here and there the colored line shows more. A faint color line on the straight edge is not worth much. In a sheet of 400 are 80 stamps which show a straight edge, but only 36 of them show the color line pronounced and 4 are double corners. One drawback exists—the stamp cannot be quite mathematically in the center and showing the perforation on opposite out of luneup. Straight edges will be in demand in the by and by. Coils and imperf come the same way. On the rotary the colored lines comes separate, a perforation intervening.

4. Under four I shall give only on idea as illustration. You are supposed to acquire a block of four of the six cents 1902. It is a corner block showing perfectly the outlines and happened to have a beautiful blue cancellation, and you would have something of unique value. Get me!

At the finish may mention that a few are interested in the initial punches for protection against theft, and a few trying to get all handstamp numbers from 1 to 500.

A stamp collection is a regular gallery of notabilities for kings, princes, native rulers, presidents, and national heroes galore are shown. Religious symbols, such as the Cross, crescent, and papal keys are shown on stamps, as well as biblical incidents such as the shipwreck of St. Paul, the Savior with His disciples, etc. There are ships and boats of all sorts from primitive native productions to up-to-date modern liners; while railway trains, airplanes, flags, maps, monuments, the gods of ancient Greece are but a few of the many other subjects I might mention as being shown on postage stamps. In fact, the varied designs alone are of sufficient interest to make postage stamps desirable objects to collect. Think of the fund of knowledge accumulated by the youth who, with that enquiring turn of mind common to most boys, really wants to learn what the various designs in his stamp album mean. Finally, mention should be made of one stamp, issued a few years ago, which Boy Scouts can claim as entirely their own. In a special series of eight stamps issued in Hungary in 1925 the design of the 1000 krona value shows a Boy Scout bugler with a camp in the background.

“Are Stamps an Investment” came up. Too much emphasis has been placed upon the financial aspect of philately and it has long been felt by many friends of the hobby that less stress should be placed upon this phase of collecting and much more upon the enjoyment to be secured from it. In the words of Dolph Fennel “Stamps offer one of the finest investments in the world as they will invariably give a 100 per cent return in pleasure, relaxation and mental diversion.” Incidentally there is some cash return as well which should be considered as a by product. True this cash return is many times far in excess of the original investment but this holds true more often where the collector has not gathered his treasures with the financial aspect prominently in mind. To buy with the speculative value always uppermost is to destroy the greatest pleasure and value of collecting and we hope to see this subordinated in favor of the benefits and joys of collecting.—Collectors Journal.

Boy and girl stamp collectors may be encouraged. A Topeka man who has been collecting stamps for twenty years has just sold his collection for \$30,000. He had one of the completest collections in the country.—Leavenworth (Kan.) Times.

END OF FAMOUS SOUTH AFRICAN ISSUE

The South African post office has at last definitely abandoned its curious, but inconvenient, triangular 4d stamp in favor of one of more conventional size and shape. Notwithstanding its historic associations as a revival of the famous three-cornered Cape stamps of former days, public opinion in the Union has always been opposed to the old 4d stamp, which was unsuited to present-day postal purposes, not only on account of its formation, but also because the absence of perforation necessitated the cutting up of the sheets by hand. The new 4d stamp made its appearance unexpectedly and is uniform with the other line-engraved values of the current pictorial series, the vignette showing a characteristic view of a Kaffir kraal printed in a rich sepia brown. As in the case of the remaining denominations, the inscriptions are rendered in English and Afrikaans upon alternate stamps in the sheet, the watermark and perforation being also the same.

New postage stamps will be put in circulation in the French Oceanic Colony of New Caledonia in 22 denominations ranging from 1c to 20f face value, and supplemented by a set of 13 postage-due stamps. It is understood that the subjects of the designs will include portraits of La Perouse and Bougainville, the two French navigators whose expeditions were the means of planting the tricolor in the Pacific during the latter part of the eighteenth century. Color changes are foreshadowed in the 1f stamp of Dahomey, the 30c and 40c of Madagascar, the 15c and 75c of Martinique, the 15c Niger Territory and 15c, 30c, 45c, 75c and 1f of Reunion.

As a result of increased rates of postage which came into force in Latvia on April 1, supplementary printings of the contemporary postage stamps have become necessary. These will be made upon the new paper watermarked with a Swastika pattern, while the colors of the 20 and 30 santimu values will be modified to lilac-rose and blue respectively, in place of the present hues. When the air mail service connecting Riga with Berlin, Königsberg, Moscow, Leningrad and Helsingfors is resumed on May 1, after the winter suspension, new air post stamps will be introduced in triangular format similar to the issue of 1921, but comprising three values, namely, 10 santimu green, 15 sant. red and 25 sant. blue.

Belgium is about to be numbered among those countries where distinctive stamps are provided for use in the air mail service, the projected series representing aeroplanes flying over the principal Belgian cities. The head of a "Moujik" furnishes the motif of a new 7 kopecs stamp of Soviet Russia, just to hand, which is printed in bright red. Norway has marked down the face value of her former 25 ore stamp to that of "20 ore," by means of an overprint in bold figures.

London is to have a Stamp Fair before the end of the year says "Stamp Collecting" for February 18th. "Stamp Collecting" has made itself personally responsible for the organization of such a Stamp Fair, to be held in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, London, immediately opposite the offices of their magazine, soon after the appearance of the 1929 catalogues, probably late October or early November.

The central attraction will be a competitive exhibition of British and Irish postage stamps, and there will be space for from twenty to thirty trade stands. The fact that Mr. Fred J. Melville has offered to give his wholehearted support is a virtual guarantee of the success of this exhibition.

BARS AND LINES.—By O. T. Hartman.

It is beyond the human mind to remember all the different bars and lines appearing on many of the earlier stamps used for precancel purposes. Somebody would earn the gratitude by this labor of love to make a comprehensive simple list of all these varieties. This list would come handy.

I shall renumerate a few. Enough to expound the need of such a list. A separate folder or incorporated separate into one or all the various precans catalogs.

Here it goes: Bridgeport, Conn., 1887-98, 5 lines. Bay City, 1890-94-98. Elkhart, Ind., 1890-1912, one horiz. or vert. bar. Grand Rapids, Mich., 1898, two horiz. lines. Lake Odessa, Mich., 1898, one heavy, one light bar, vertical. Marshall, Mich., 1894-1904, one 7 mil. wide smudge. Menominee, Mich., 1912, a large M. Whittaker, Mich., 1908-12, a criss-cross pattern of lines. St. Paul, Minn., 1894, 2 vertical lines far apart. Omaha, Neb., 1879-93, due, two rough bars. Brookport, New York, 1890, 5 lines. Buffalo, N. Y., 1894-98, 2 lines. Floral Park, N. Y., 1898-02, various 2 lines. Lancaster, N. Y., 1887-93, two quads. New York City, 1898, 3 or 4 heavy bars, also triangles. New York City, 1902, smudge line. Seneca Falls, N. Y., 1898, one heavy bar. Spring Valley, N. Y., 2, 3 lines. Yonkers, N. Y., 1879-1912, a series of square large dots. Yonkers, N. Y., 1908-17, four lines. Pine Bluff, N. C., 3 heavy horiz. lines. Bismarck, N. D., 1912, two heavy lines. Akron, O., 1890, two roller lines, 1894 wide bar. Dayton, O., 1902, 3 lines. Mansfield, O., 1902-04, bar 8 mil. wide. New Berlin, O., 1908, a series of small squares. Lancaster, Pa., 1879, 1c, purple ink stroke. Lancaster, Pa., 1908, 1c, purple smudge. Lepark, Pa., 1902-12, bar from 3 to 5 mil. wide. Glen Allen, Va., 1873, a large star. Milwaukee, Wis., 1875, 2c, 3 smudgy bars, also 1894-95. Milwaukee, Wis., 1894-02, two bars.

STAMPS VOTED FAVORITE HOBBY

Through the efforts of Prince Otto Eduard Leopold Bismarck, called in as a special adviser to the Quiver County Census Bureau, the results have been catalogued. Outdistancing all runners-up by half a mile, stamps wins the gold medal and blue ribbon for being the boys' favorite hobby. More amazing is the fact that the occult science of astronomy follows close upon stamps, a remarkable contrast and a relationship that does not exist on any other report of boys' interest we have ever seen. We are glad the boys are aspiring toward the stars. Equally remarkable is the fact that aviation stands fifth in the list. The results show the following is the boy interest list as indicated by the ballot: Stamps, astronomy, carpentry, electricity and radio, aviation, photography, books and study, farming and dairying, flower-raising, collection of old coins and collection of butterflies.—Woope.

WAIT AND SEE.

A cutting from Stamp Collector's Magazine (June 1, 1865), in which there is a letter from a Mr. Thomas Wait remarking on "the present most fashionable and much persecuted practice of collecting foreign stamps." "The amount of skill and business tact," he says, "called forth in correspondence, purchasing and exchanging, etc., is quite a pattern." Mr. Wait strongly recommended parents and teachers to encourage as far as possible "this useful diversion," which he hailed as "a great boon amid the innumerable inducements" of the year of grace 1865.—Stamp Collecting.

DENMARK NOTES

Denmark issued its first set of stamps in the spring of the year 1851. This was during the reign of King Frederick VII, who occupied the throne during the years 1848-63. Unlike his successors, his picture does not appear on the stamps of the country.

It was feared that King Frederick would be the last of the male line. This was foreseen by the king, the people, and the foreign powers. On May 8, 1852, a treaty, participated in by England, Austria, Russia, Prussia and Sweden, was signed providing for the succession to the throne. According to this treaty, in case Frederick had no children, the crown was to go to Prince Christian of Glucksburg, and his wife Princess Louisa, who through her mother was a niece of King Christian VIII. This treaty did not seem to settle the internal strife as had been expected. When King Frederick VII died, although Christian IX was proclaimed king, the young Duke of Augustenburg appeared in the province of Schleswig as Frederick VIII. Germany supported the claims of the pretender and in October, 1864, Christian IX renounced claim to the provinces of Lauenburg, Holstein and Schleswig.

On part of the stamps issued in 1904-05 appears the picture of Christian IX, and listed by Scott as A11. The issue of 1907-12 pictures Frederick VIII. But most interesting of all is the issue for Iceland (A5) that pictures both Christian IX and Frederick VIII, deadly political enemies in life, in double profile, after their hectic days were over.—A. C. LeDuc. Mekeels.

MOSCOW'S STAMP TRICK

Because the amount at stake is relatively not very large, no protest has yet been made about the regular income the Soviet is making out of a guileless philatelic public by the sale of new issues of stamps. From 1918 to 1921 stamps were officially abolished by the Bolshevists, though the decree was not altogether observed, but since 1921 no fewer than 338 different catalogued varieties have appeared.

Commemorative sets are popular nowadays, and the Soviet has been quick to cater for this fashion. In addition to the almost annual set celebrating the anniversary of the Bolshevik seizure of power there have been several Lenin commemoratives, a set commemorating the 1905 rebellion, and innumerable famine relief and child welfare stamps. Some of these Russian stamps are well produced, but the majority are the crudest example of so-called Cubist art, depicting the working man gazing at an angular dawn of hope or striking off the chains of slavery—in ironic contrast, one knows, to his fate in real life.—London paper.

NORWEGIAN POSTHORNS

Collectors of Norwegian stamps will be interested in the following paragraph: "Do you know the length of a posthorn? In the days when post horns were really post horns they were 36 inches in length and made of some white metal which earned them the name of 'a yard of tin.' Aesthetic coach guards provided themselves with instruments of copper, with a gamut of five notes, instead of the official three; and if they were musical as well as aesthetic, they provided their own key bugles and tootled 'The British Grenadiers' or 'The White Cockade.' Modern coaches use a 52-inch brass horn, which is quite a superior instrument far in advance of the old 'yard of tin.'" --Daily Chronicle.

FOR THE STAMP COLLECTORS

Germany's money trouble during the past 10 years have been reflected in her postage stamp issues, which will become rare in philatelic collections of the future, according to an interesting pamphlet which has just been published by E. Schuster of Nuremberg.

Postage stamp history during the inflation of the German mark reflected the uncertain conditions in the country. With the creation of the German republic several new stamps with odd designs appeared, while the old German stamps were issued in colors. In 1920, along with some other stamps, the first aerial stamps were printed. In 1921, the new issues, with large figures of value, were followed by the "Arbeiter" stamps, symbolizing labor. In a few months a new set appeared with the postillion's horn as its characteristic design.

After the occupation of the Ruhr came another new issue which was quickly followed by an oblong series which had values up to 100,000 marks. There were several other issues, and in 1923 new stamps were put out practically every month. These stamps, with values of millions of marks, were not sufficient to pay ordinary letter postage, and stamps with milliard values were soon printed. The highest of these was the 50 milliarden, the milliard being equivalent to one billion.

Schuster points out that, at the German mark value of approximately 24 cents before the war, a stamp with a value of 50 milliarden would represent more than 10 billion dollars, whereas the stamp was actually only sufficient to cover letter postage at the time it was issued.

Consequently, it would seem that the philatelist of the future, who has a good collection of these stamps will be able to command a high price for them.—Boers.

A NEW USE FOR CHARITY STAMPS.

The French Tuberculosis stamps are not postage stamps, but there is an amusing yarn quoted by the "Medical Press" from a French source, which is worth passing on.

Some children were selling the stamps in a chemist's shop on market day in a country town. They were asked by an old peasant woman what they were for, and answered that they were to cure people. The old woman, whose husband was in bed with rheumatism, bought some of the stamps, and on getting home, stuck them on her husband's leg.

The next day the rheumatism was gone, and the husband was walking about as usual. Nothing will now persuade the lady that the stamps are not a miraculous remedy.—Postage Stamp.

BADEN-POWELL STAMPS

Major-General Sir Robert Baden-Powell is, with the single and notorious exception of Postmaster O'Connell of New Brunswick, the only individual outside the Royal family whose portrait was, by his own orders, engraved on any postage stamp issued within the confines of the British Empire. The label in question known as the "Baden-Powell stamp," was issued at Mafeking during the historic siege of 1899-1900. It was produced by a photographic process, bears the facial value of 2d and was apparently only available for postage within the town of Mafeking itself. The stamp was designed by Captain Greener, who acted as chief paymaster during the siege.—Mekeels.

STAMPS FOR WINDOW DRESSING

Mr. Alfred W. McLeod of Vancouver, B. C., and New Westminster, B. C., realizing the attractions of envelopes bearing stamps from countries the world over addressed to his firm has utilized them to good effect as a window display. Crowds were collected before the exhibit and the resulting publicity had its influence that bore favorably both on philately and the exhibiting firm. An article in a paper was illustrated by a row of stamp cuts and one of postmarks; and we quote from the columns of the paper:

"Every town is full of men, women and children who collect postage stamps. The hobby seems never to languish. In every large or medium size city there are one or more persons who make stamp collecting and selling their business. One can well picture the eagerness with which hundreds of persons who stop at the McLeod window scan the various envelopes and wish they could obtain this or that stamp for their own album.

"The window display has been the envy of many juvenile stamp collectors and the firm has been asked by a number of them for stamps. Mr. McLeod, president of the company, is a philatelist ("botanical" name for stamp collector) himself, however, and the envelopes have been saved largely due to his interest in this pastime."—Mekeels.

SPECIALIST OR STAMP COLLECTOR

We cannot very well advise you whether you should specialize or collect general. The specialist gets his fun, and so does the general collector. As you say: "Really, I like general collecting better," we feel that "General Collecting" is the thing for you.

We have known general collectors who became specialists for the reason that there were too many varieties to collect. Again we know of a good many specialists who returned to general collecting for the reason that their specialism became such a dominating tyrant that it concealed to them the beauty of stamps and only let them see the frilled edges of perforations, the thin places in the paper called watermarks or an irregularity in the printing.

The general collector to whom the number of stamps he has or aims to get is the paramount factor for his collecting, gets fun from every stamp he adds to his album, others get it from the interpretation of what they see depicted on stamps, and the specialist delights in finding on or in stamps what the others don't care to find.

If you feel like specializing slightly—for the sake of being it—worship a bit at the shrine of specialism, and should you discover it a false god for you—then you can again show your general collection your devotion.—Emca.

MALTA REVENUE AND POSTAGE STAMPS COMBINED.

At the sitting of the senate held February 15, 1928, Mr. Arrigo asked the head of the ministry whether the government is prepared to revert to the former system of having "Revenue and Postage" stamps combined for all purposes.

Asked whether the reversion would take place in the near future, Lord Strickland replied that he would not give any information that might encourage speculation and help speculators.

From the above replies of Lord Strickland one can easily surmise that before long, Malta will have new stamps to substitute the present series which is available for postage purposes only.—Sent by W. R. Gatt. —

THE PROFESSOR LOST

Some time ago, Mr. M. C. Howe of Monson, Mass., sent us a clipping from an unidentified newspaper, perhaps to be ascribed to Waterloo, Iowa, that is somewhat unconventional in its treatment of the subject of stamps. According to Mr. Leon G. Maring "with \$40,000 Albums," stamps that "represent potential millions are lost daily through the waste paper baskets of the nation." Mr. Maring has been a collector for thirty years, with 47 albums to bespeak his activity; and he is an enthusiastic proponent of his pursuit. He speaks before schools on stamps, and does much otherwise to show his colors. He says that there are, or were, 981 stamp issuing countries, and that he has specimens from 968 of them. We quote the following particulars of an interesting contest: "A few years ago, Maring was in conversation with a history professor of Iowa State College. Maring wagered a straw hat (it was in the summer) that he could write the names of more foreign countries than the professor. The professor was not a betting man, he said, but he was confident that he could best Maring. He wrote. His list contained about 150 names of countries. Then Maring wrote. His list contained more than 400, many of which the history professor confessed he had never heard of. How did Maring learn the names? Through geography text books? No. Through his stamps.—Mekeels.

Albert Broska of Cleveland writes about the stamp club at the East Technical high school and some of the stamps in his collection. He also sent a clipping from an Ohio paper describing the collecting activities of Donald C. Van Buren, assistant U. S. attorney of Cleveland. Mr. Van Buren has a boy named Hiram, and two months ago he tried him out on stamp collecting. It is very evident that "dád" got the stamp fever himself, because the article quotes Mr. Van Buren as saying: "I soon discovered it is not a kid's game, but an old man's game, so I took the collection away from him." We have a good many juniors reading this page who will not admit Mr. Van Buren's contention that stamps are not for boys.—Mekeels.

Stamp collecting is thought by many today as confined although to the juvenile who have lots of pleasure gathering these. In the contrary stamp collecting today is a hobby that is followed up by lawyers, doctors, clerks, professional men, bankers, in fact every walk of life. There are today thousands of stamp dealers in the United States and foreign countries who handle millions of dollars worth of stamps, catering to the collectors the world over.—Boers.

All find it gives more and better results when your ads continually run and inspire confidence in your house and your goods. It is a well known fact that used to seeing an ad they acquire that "I'm acquainted" feeling and become good prospects, then good customers. Why not send some X Ads for next three insertions or more? And why not do it right now—TODAY—while it is fresh in your mind? Best by test.

Commander Byrd was supposed to have carried some mail over the North Pole. No one has yet explained why a Norwegian cover should bear postmarks in two languages, Norwegian and English. It is not, to our knowledge, a bilingual country. The Commander is a gentleman, but does not know the type of airmail dealers who consider themselves the whole hog.—Stampology.

THE PHILATELIC WEST

PROPOSED NEW STAMPS

Following a suggestion made by A. G. Seyfert, Postmaster General New has authorized the issuance of a special stamp to commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Valley Forge. The stamp will be of the two-cent denomination, printed in red and portraying General Washington kneeling in prayer.

Mr. Seyfert is an active member of the Lancaster County Historical Society. He is a former member of the State Assembly and was at one time a United States counsel to Canada.

Fifty million stamps will be printed and placed on sale May 26. The first stamps will be offered at Valley Forge, West Chester, Philadelphia, Norristown, Lancaster and Washington.

The stamp will be placed on sale at the Lancaster postoffice on May 26, it has been announced.—Geo. J. Heim.

The stamps I like are not necessarily the most valuable, nor yet the sleeper. My fancy runs to two kinds—those attractive because of beauty, and those that appeal because of rarity. Note I say not necessarily the most valuable, for the rarities are not always valuable.

For instance, Nicaragua official No. 959 lists \$4.00 and I have not seen a copy in years. It is usually missing from the set, and the set itself turns up about once in five years.

Nearly everything under the sun is featured on a postage stamp. Yet some of the most common animals are not as well represented as the more uncommon beats. Offhand, we can recall no stamp that pictures the cat, though there are plenty of stamps picturing its more ferocious relatives. Why should poor pussy be so neglected?

One of the prettiest and most interesting collections that it has been our privilege to see is the collection of Lincoln stamps made by Mr. Fred Norton of this city. Mr. Norton is an ardent admirer of the great man, and his collection is much larger than one would expect, considering the number of Lincoln stamps issued. Getting them in singles, pairs, blocks, covers, etc., is quite a job.

Ten or fifteen years ago, before the catalog grew so bulky, several pages were devoted to Chinese Treaty Ports. Then, to save space, these stamps were dropped and seem to have dropped off the market at the same time. Too bad, for they are an interesting lot, and many are much scarcer than one would suppose. And they seem to have carried letters to a greater extent than many of the so considered "legitimate" stamps. The wise boys are making their collections when the stamps come along.

Another lot that receives little attention from the average collector are the provisional issues of Peru issued during the Chilian occupation of Lima and Callao. Many of these are far rarer than the price would indicate, and few general collectors can boast of a good showing. How many have you?

Errors are always popular. Inverted centers are usually rare. Double centers are rarer still, especially when made by the more careful manufacturers. Errors in engraving or printing on stamps made by Waterlow or Perkins, Bacon are seldom seen. Yet we have recently seen a copy of the 4c Costa Rica official, No. 450, with center double, the property of A. Roterberg. Unfortunately a careless collector caused the stamp to be cracked in two—for which he should be boiled in oil.—American Philatelist.

IN MY STAMP DEN.—By Leonard A. Gibbens.

Norway has just issued a very pleasing set of four stamps to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Henrik Ibsen. The stamps are modeled on the design of the ordinary adhesive at present current. Ibsen's "head" is substituted for the familiar lion, and a reproduction of his signature, and the dates "1828-1928" are included in the design. The absence of unnecessary detail, together with a rather heavy background—a feature of recent Norwegian stamps—results in a stamp of very neat and attractive appearance and a welcome addition to the stamp album. Henrik Ibsen was born at Skein, Norway, in 1828, and died in 1906. A poet and dramatist, he commenced writing poetry in his nineteenth year. In 1850 he worked as a journalist while studying at the university of Christiania. In the following year he was appointed director of the theater at Bergen, where he wrote and brought out several dramas. He travelled in Germany and Italy, and wrote lyric dramas of which "Braund" and "Peer Gynt" are well known. Later he wrote several plays dealing with the problems of social life. However, to return to stamps, few collectors would admit that their liking for Norwegian stamps was due to the designs which, whilst they are quite attractive in their way, cannot be compared with the spectacular emissions of so many countries. Nevertheless, they are free from pictorial or other pretty and "fetching" designs. Whilst it must be admitted that there have been commemorative issues, these so far only number four, all made up of stamps of low facial value. The are: 1914, 100th Anniversary of Independence. 1925, Amundsen's Polar Flight. 1925, Annexation of Spitzbergen, and the present Ibsen series. Most likely another will materialize in the near future, when the 100th anniversary of the death of the mathematician Abel comes to pass. To a serious collector who seeks stamps to study, and issues which will provide plenty of interesting material, Norway is philatelically ideal. The first stamp, issued January, 1855, is becoming scarce in fine condition. It is not so many years ago since copies could be had for a trifling sum, but now, owing to the ever-growing demand, one has to pay a price very near to the catalogue quotation of \$5.00 for a specimen of this stamp in superb condition. Unused, it is worth about twelve times as much, whilst for blocks of four or more, in either state, the catalogue price is entirely out of the question. The variety with double foot on the right hind leg of the lion is a certain rarity unused—used copies are valued around \$50.00 each, although one sold a few days ago for \$20.00. The cancellations of this stamp are full of interest. For instance, there is the postmark with a numeral in a circle, sometimes called a ringed circle. This was used in towns, each having a distinguishing number. A complete set of these postmarks is a long one, and to get it complete would call for the close search of many specimens, but it would be well worth while, apart from the satisfaction of compilation and possession, for the value is far in excess of a like number of stamps with ordinary, or similar, cancellations. No doubt this accounts in some measure for the appreciation in value and difficulty of obtaining this stamp. In fact it is a parallel to the 1d. black of our own country, thousands of which are locked up as a result of plating, and so forth. The lists of Norwegian stamps in the present edition of catalogue have been thoroughly revised and re-written, and will repay the careful study they require. In used condition most of the stamps are inexpensive but the collecting instinct will have to be fully aroused to run superb copies to album. The 120,

issued in 1883, is a good stamp and quite difficult to get in fine condition, especially mint. The high values with portrait of King Haakon VII, are an attractive series compared with preceding types and a stamp of this issue which really is good is the 1½kr., blue, printed from a new die whereon the stamps measure 21mm. in height. In the opinion of most experts on Norway, all three values of this issue are much underpriced in every catalogue. To prove this, try and obtain a mint copy of each value perfectly centered. Present issues present a departure entirely new in Norwegian stamp designs and show a crowned lion with battle axe, similar to that pictured on Norway's first stamp. An important feature of this design is the amount of solid color forming the background for the lion and other details, this provides a type of stamp at once distinctive and by no means devoid of artistic qualities. Contemporary stamps of Norway are worth watching, owing to frequent changes of color, which render certain values obsolete. Whilst it is certain that the stamps of Norway will provide a highly interesting study, it is also equally certain that a collection of superb picked copies will turn out an excellent investment. To a collector with the necessary capital—although this is not an undertaking calling for a great deal of money—coupled with time and patience, the formation of a collection of unused stamps is to be recommended. This would be an exceptional opportunity and in the course of time would result in a collection affording much pleasure and satisfaction, both in appearance and in regard to the question of investment.—West-End Philatelist.

EVERYONE HAS A WANT.

There may be something lacking in your collection—something you would be pleased to have if you only knew where to find it. Possibly you have something you desire to sell if only you knew the other party needful to the transaction.

Perhaps it is a more suitable album, a book you seek, a long since printed article dealing with a subject dear to you; possibly you have a stamp or coin possessed of some abnormal peculiarity upon which you would welcome an opinion; you may be looking for a long lost stamp or coin acquaintance. There is no end to the catalogue of possible wants.

Throughout all these years of pilotage of your news bringer I have always welcomed readers' letters expressing these wants. I have a want. I am writing to tell you of it now. I want you to write and tell me of yours. My want is for every reader of West to write to me enumerating their needs, no matter what they may be. Every letter receives my own personal attention, and I ask no more than that you furnish a stamp for reply.

GOLD MEDAL FOR MOTHERHOOD.

A rival ceremony to that of the presentation of the king's bounty has just been enacted at Versailles, France, where the "Fete of the French Mothers" is featured every year. Mme. de Beler was awarded a gold medal for bringing ten sons into the world, and a silver medallion was handed to Mme. Bonnal for bringing up a similar number for the good of France.

SPECULATION

The constant advance in good stamps is immensely attractive to speculative minds. Speculation in good stamps pays as it pays in good mines. But beware of "wild" speculating.

STAMPS AS ANTIQUES.

The fact that postage stamps by being included in the great London Exhibition of Antiques are thus recognized, in a striking manner, as items worthy of the serious study of collectors.

As the postage stamp approaches its centenary it is qualifying to be accounted an "antique." The dictionary definition of an "antique" is "an ancient relic," and with collectors of such it is an accepted rule that to be dignified by the term a collectable object must be at least one hundred years old. For this reason postage stamps, which are as yet merely octogenarians, were barred from a public exhibition of antiques held in London recently, although it is understood that the promoters of the impending exhibition take a somewhat broader view.

The fact that in twelve years from now the postage stamp will attain its centenary is already influencing the stamp market. Collectors of antiques who have hitherto affected to look down upon this upstart branch of the cult are beginning to turn their attention to the fine old stamps of the so-called "Classic" period.

Signs are not wanting, also, that the extended boom in modern British Colonial stamp issues is on the wane, and that an ever-increasing number of philatelists are returning to their first loves in the form of the beautiful early line engraved and imperforate stamps. These were issued in the days before the meretricious typographic process generally supplanted steel plate printing in the eighteen eighties.

There can be no question but that, despite the heavy speculation which has taken place in the twentieth century stamps in the last few years, it is the stamps of the first four philatelic decades (1840-1880) that constitute the gilt-edged securities of philately. Their rise in value has been slow but steady, and with the growing scarcity of fine specimens must inevitably be maintained as time goes on.

Few more charming objets de collection or sounder forms of investment could be found today than the early postage stamps of Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, U. S. A., Brazil and the other first-comers in the stamp-issuing field. And here it is curious to note that whereas the British Penny Black of 1840 may still be picked up for a modest \$1.25, the 5 cents U. S. A., issued seven years later, fetches nearly \$10 a copy; whilst the French 20 centimes of 1849 is valued at a mere shilling. The comparison is instructive as showing the enormous increase of stamp collectors in the United States, the majority of whom specialize in the stamps of their own country.

Now that old stamps are coming to be accepted on an equal footing with antiques, the tendency to collect only choice "pieces" is manifesting itself amongst the wealthier and more discriminating philatelists. A single specimen in immaculate condition is not enough. The connoisseur in stamps demands unsevered pairs or exceptionally large blocks of imperforate stamp rarities on the original envelope, and the like, and is prepared, moreover, to pay what the ordinary collector might consider a "fancy" figure for them.

The day of "museum pieces" has come in stamps, as in "antiques." Nevertheless, there are still a number of first issues at present under-valued, fine copies of which, such as the 3kr. Austria 1850, 4sk. Denmark 1854, and 10kop. Russia 1858, may be picked up by the astute philatelist of small means for a few pence.—Bazar.



BOILED DOWN

ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

Some stamps are "way up in the air" and some "way down in the dumps." Hope your purchases of the last year will give you all "that grand and glorious feeling" and none cause you to feel like "when a feller needs a friend." Whatever may be your case have my sympathy as well as my congratulations.

News items about your collection will be welcome any time. Let's hear from you.

Stamp collecting is pleasure at the time and there is pleasure ahead—years of it—as you turn to your collection, and besides it is one of the few pleasures which ultimately may give you back more pennies than you ever spent on it.

We do not deal in stamps. Our efforts are devoted exclusively to obtaining the best results for our X Ads.

Many a time when money is tight and badly needed—it comes from a stamp collection.

Tell your story through Want X Ads and help both yourself and the other fellow.

Stamp collecting appeals are many and varied—it is a clean hobby and one that sharpens the intelligence, and stamp collecting is certainly a sociable hobby.

Miss Minnie Dalton, aged 22 years, who is postmistress at Mayflower, Arkansas, is said to be the youngest of her sex holding such a position.

An automatic mail box that weights and stamps letters has come into use in Germany.

Many of the most famous state documents in England will be reproduced for the public early in 1928 in the form of postal cards.

Arrangement in a stamp collection is of the greatest importance. Perhaps you have a fine collection—is it properly arranged? If not, you are losing an enormous amount of pleasure.

Within the covers of West realities are yours at the prices others pay for visions.

Stamps have a story to tell and a fascinating one at that—full of interest and of high educational value.

If you want to buy, trade or sell something, let West help you tell the world about it.

We have met many a collector who prided himself of having bought all his stamps at half catalog, and we have seen some of their collections. They had all the stamps that a dealer could sell at half catalog—there the collection stopped.

BUY NOW—SMILE LATER

Too many collectors say "I wish" when they should have said "I will" for the common stamp of today may be the rarity of tomorrow.



Totem Pole Got From West Advertiser in Jenners' Museum Park.



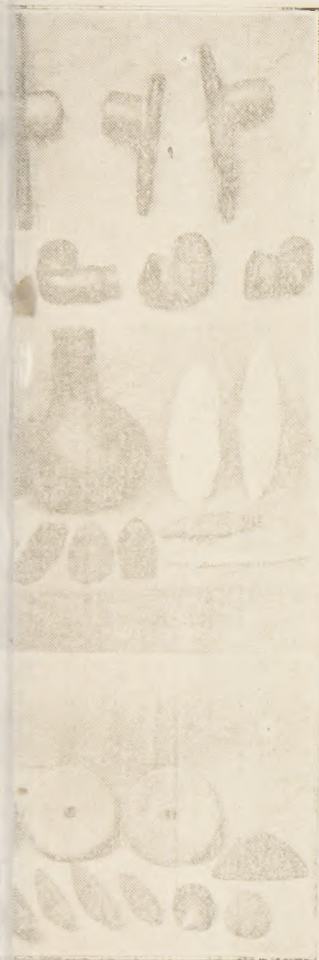
Wildcat Broken Bank Bill. Who Has Any Nebraska Bills For Sale?

Our Illustrations

Some Clay Pipes from Caddo Indian graves, Yell Co., Ark. Engraved Bottles, Arrow Heads and Hematite Boat of Pilquist, Arkansas Dealer. See His Ads.



MUMMY AND LID OF SARCOPHAGUS, 12TH DYNASTY

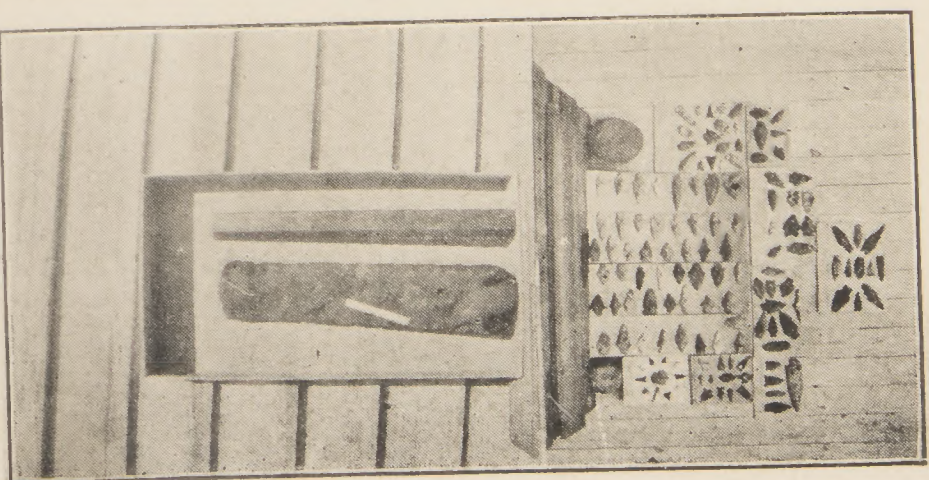


H. JENNER and R. B. JENNER, Loup City, Neb.
Have one of Nebraska's Finest Private Museums.
The two cuts below are from their Museum Park.





Indian Women From Arizona, Jenners' Museum Park.



Indian Arrows from different U. S. states of Good, Harrisburg, Va., collection. Indian Spade ten and three-fourths inches long of Daniels, Ariz. See His Ads.

NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet as a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten divinities, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coins, coinage, currency, medals, etc.. We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operating with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting. M. SORENSON, 1923-C AVE., EAST, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

Frequently I receive inquiries from coin collectors—mostly the younger members of the tribe—asking where they can get coin books. Such letters are not so easy to reply to. A coin book and a coin book may be two different things. One fellow may have in view only a coin list, giving values, so he will be able to figure out how much the coins in his collection are worth, and in such instances, where this is all the information wanted, the task is rather easy. But not so when scientific, historical and descriptive works on numismatic subjects are wanted, for such books are quite rare. True, several good books of that kind have been published in this country, but most of them are out of stock, and if any of them are still in stock, one does not know where to get them. And this on account of lack of system. To ask a book dealer would be of little avail. If you ask for the latest novel, he might be interested, but a book on numismatics—he would stare at you.

Go to Europe and ask a book dealer for a certain book—any book, on any subject—and he will get it for you if the book is in stock anywhere in his country.

At a numismatic sale, held last summer, the auction catalogue listed 77 numbers of numismatic books and catalogues. It is at such auctions one may secure desirable books—provided our bids are high enough. Many sale catalogues—those issued by the big coin dealers—often have many fine plates, are printed on a good quality of paper and contain much instructive information, and they are well worth keeping. But the younger collectors do not get them, hence it is difficult for them to get coin books and gain information on coins.

We have many coin collectors—most of them collecting in a small way, but the majority have no means of gaining information about the coins they already have and others, which they might want to get, because they do not belong to any coin club or numismatic association, and read no coin books or papers. To collect that way is like groping in the dark.

The December, 1927, number of "Geographic Magazine" contained a very interesting and profusely illustrated article on "The Geography of Money," by William Atherton Du Puy. The history of coined money may be traced back to the metal disks of Lybia, about 2,600 years ago. It mentions many kinds of money, which have been or still are in use among primitive people—

cowrie shells, used by many people; tao or knife money of China; iron nails in Scotland; bars of crystal salt in Ethiopia; the Yap stone money, some of which is 12 feet in diameter; bead money of the Solomon Islands; Porpoise teeth of Malaita; copper pots of Cyprus; feather money of the Santa Cruz Islands; spirit money of China; bricks of pressed tea in Siberia, Tibet and Mongolia, etc. One form of primitive metal money was bracelets, rings and other personal ornaments, and the custom of women decorating themselves with coins is still prevalent in many parts of the world.

I feel tempted to cite the following from the article: "Money," it has been said, "is what the other man takes for the things you want." Man has used money, in some form, since the dawn of civilization. Fishhooks and slave girls, beads, hawks and hounds, all have served as a medium of exchange. Early Virginians bought their wives with tobacco. Once, it is said, Mexican Indians used cacao beans, until aboriginal crooks began making clay counterfeits, baked and varnished like the real.

The study of money, as an instrument of trade through the ages, involves art, heraldry, and mythology; it leads to economics and politics—and far into history. When kingdoms rose, often new moneys rose with them; and, when they fell, their moneys passed away. Nothing shakes a government like the depreciation of its money. The very progress of civilization itself may be largely measured by the pace at which the various money of the world have been standardized and accepted by international commerce. It was, to a large degree, the quest for gold and silver, and their use in coined money, which led to the exploration and settlement of America, Australia, and South Africa."

Have you ever tried to make scrap books? If so, you know how interesting and useful they are. If you have not, you don't know how much you are missing. Scrap books on any hobby or subject are always interesting. Articles and short items on numismatics appear frequently in newspapers and magazines. We read them and forget them again, but if we cut them out and paste them in a scrap book we have them. And it is really surprising how much one can accumulate of that kind in the course of a year. If properly pasted up—any blank book or loose leaf cover with inserted leaves will do—the result will be a "coin book" not to be sneered at, and it will be found to contain many interesting items. It is true that such information is not always of the most reliable sort, but there are kernels among the chaff and it is not difficult to find the kernels. Try making scrap books—on any hobby that interests you—and you will like it.

At the head of this department is a standing request to send me clippings on numismatic subjects, but so far have most readers seemingly overlooked this. Judging from the few clippings I receive one would think that the readers were making scrap books. If such was the case all would be good and well, but I am inclined to doubt this. I know there is a tendency among us all to "let George do it," but this is not always fair, even if "George" is willing. Be congenial, be helpful to your brother collectors. Whatever interests you will also interest them. So, if you are not making scrap books, whenever you see anything in your newspapers or magazines about coins, coinage, tokens, medals, paper money, etc., send it along. I will trim it up and pass it to our fellow collectors.

A FAMOUS COLLECTION OF FRONTIER GUNS.—By F. G. Carnes.

One of the most famous collections of frontier guns is the property of Deputy U. S. Marshall Fred E. Sutton of Kansas City. In the collection are some very valuable guns, due to the fact that they were used by famous and notorious persons. Among his guns are weapons used by the following men and women: Wild Bill Hickok, Frank James, Arkansas Joe, Billey the Kid, Pat Garrett, Belle Starr, Pawnee Bill, Teddy Roosevelt, Buckskin Joe, U. S. marshals and the notorious female bandit Fannie Hammer.

The following extracts are taken from Mr. Sutton's catalog.

"Pawnee Bill—Maj. Gordon W. Lillie's gun. A double action six shooter made by Smith & Wesson, was carried for years by the noted scout and Indian Fighter—Pawnee Bill side partner and life long friend of Buffalo Bill Cody. He was one of the few plainsmen who opened Oklahoma to the white settlers, was a friend and comrade of David L. Payne, Capt. W. L. Couch, Wild Bill Hickok, Buckskin Joe and Buffalo Jones. This gun has a wonderful history and has done its part in it. Pawnee Bill is the most picturesque and noted Scout now living and is the white chief of the Pawnee Indians. He lives at his beautiful ranch home, Blue Hawk Peak, near Pawnee, Okla. This gun is beautifully engraved as follows: From Pawnee Bill to his friend Fred E. Sutton, April 15th, 1915. As he was said to be one of the best shots with a six gun or rifle in the entire west, one will readily see that this gun is entitled to many notches which his natural modesty forbade him to make A very noted weapon.

Frank James. This vest pocket derringer was given by Frank James to Maj. J. N. Edwards of St. Joseph, Mo., to whom he surrendered and at the time of his surrender it was given by Maj. Edwards to its present owner Mr. Sutton, July 9, 1887. This is a very historical gun as it was carried by the world's famous outlaw. A very beautiful gun that shoots a 41 cal., soft nose bullet.

Belle Starr's winchester. This gun, a saddle winchester, was the property of Belle Starr the Outlaw Queen of the Indian Territory who was killed from ambush by Edgar Watson, February 3, 1889, near Young's Bend. Her saddle mare ran away and was caught by Deputy U. S. Marshall James Boles, who was camped on a stream where he had been for some time trying to capture this female outlaw for whose death the Wells Fargo Express Co. had offered fifty thousand dollars reward. Boles took this gun and its holster from Belle's saddle when he caught the mare. It has on one side of the breech in brass her name and on the other side a brass star. This gun was later given Mr. Sutton by Boles in appreciation of (Sutton who was also a deputy U. S. marshal), saving his life by preventing an outlaw from shooting him in the back. Marshal Boles passed away some years ago at Oklahoma City where he was a jailor. This gun is a valuable relic and is much sought after by relic hunters and historical societies. Mr. Sutton has refused a thousand dollars for it.

This valuable collection is now for sale and should by all means be placed in some worthy museum.

INDIANS TEMPERED STONES FOR WEAPONS IN SOIL

The stones intended to be used in the making of weapons were kept in the damp soil by the Indians, not to hide them as is sometimes supposed, but to keep them evenly tempered.

LOST MONEY

If you subscribe to the philosophy that one man's loss is another man's gain, to whom, do you suppose, does the profit accrue when you forget to take your package of bills from its hiding place in the parlor stove before lighting the fire in the fall? If you drop a dollar bill and it blows into the gutter and is never recovered, who profits? If you fall into the river and drown and your body takes its place permanently in Davy Jones' locker, who is to the good to the extent of the modest roll in your vest pocket.

The answer to one and all of the questions is, Uncle Sam. Every piece of paper money that goes out from the treasury and fails to return, profits the government to the extent of its face value. If it is a gold or silver certificate the metal which was placed in the treasury for its redemption is never called forth. If it is a federal reserve note or a national bank note, the securities that have been deposited as a guarantee at the time of its issue, or their equivalent, remain in the treasury. So is there solace to the patriot who so loses his wallet that it not found by another, its contents are applied to the expenses of the government.

At the treasury department it is impossible to determine from the records just how much money has gone out that will never return. There are, however, certain facts available upon which to base an estimate.

During and immediately following the Civil War the government issued about 370 million dollars in fractional currency, called at the time shin-plasters, of denominations below the dollar. Now, sixty years later, there are still 15 million dollars worth of them unredeemed. It is believed that much of this money was buried with men who died in battle. The bills were of such small denominations that they were carelessly handled. Anyway the government profited to the extent of \$15,000,000 from the shin-plasters that were lost.

Between the dates of 1862 and 1887 the government issued one dollar United States notes to the amount of \$188,000,000 and then discontinued them. It has been 35 years since any of them were issued. In 1907 \$10,000 worth of them came in for redemption. In 1916 \$3,000 came in. There are still 1,800,000 of these dollar bills that have not come back, and it does not seem probable that they ever will. Nine-tenths of one per cent of them were lost. If the experience of these dollar bills be taken as typical it may be estimated that nearly one per cent of the dollar bills put out never return.

There was an issue of two-dollar bills about the same size that went forth during the same period. The percentage of them lost is less than of the dollar bills because the larger the bill the more careful is its possessor with it. Seven-tenths of one per cent of the two-dollar bills never came back and because of this fact the government profited to the amount of \$1,350,000.

From figures available it is estimated that bills of larger denominations are less frequently lost. Probably no more than three-tenths of one per cent of them fail to return. Taking it all together it is estimated that, aside from the shin-plasters that were lost, there have been about \$8,000,000 worth of paper money that went out from the treasury and never came back. These were United States notes, and gold and silver certificates.

In addition to these are the bills put out by the national banks. The federal government guarantees this money, and to it and not to the bank of issue comes the profit from a bill that is never presented for redemption.

The national banks have about a third as much paper money in circulation as is issued by the treasury and it is probable that the government has made three or four million dollars out of lost national bank notes.

Federal reserve currency is so new a thing in the monetary life of the nation that none of its issues may yet be written off as lost. Federal reserve banks have a stupendous amount of currency out, however, and, basing judgment on the experience of the past, there are certain amounts of it that will never come back. There are some three billions of federal reserve paper now in existence. If one-half of one per cent of that money never returns, which seems a reasonable percentage, the government will find itself in possession of a velvet from lost money of that variety aggregating \$15,000,000.

Certain occurrences have added materially to the government's profit on money that never comes back for redemption. There is an item on the books of the treasury deliberately charging off a million dollars as destroyed in the Chicago fire. The treasury admits that it profited to that extent. It undoubtedly saved itself the necessity of redeeming much more than a million. Wherever there is a fire of any considerable size there is sure to be a direct profit to the government on burned money. The San Francisco and Baltimore fires were directly profitable to the government. When the Titanic went to the bottom of the Atlantic unknown amounts of currency went down with it. There was American paper money in the strong boxes of the Lusitania when the German submarine sunk her, and there was American paper money in the pockets of most of the people on board. The same was true of many ships that went to the bottom during the World War. All of this that remains unrecovered is profit to the government.

When the Chicago fire occurred and subsided, many people scrambled through the embers to find the safes in which their money had been put away. With impatient hands these safes were opened to see the condition of the contents. In many instances this haste was expensive. Flames were not able to penetrate these safes to consume the contents. Being airtight there was not enough oxygen in them to create a blaze. But in many of them there was still heat. When air was let into these safes they burst into flames and the contents were consumed. Had they not been opened until they were entirely cooled the contents would have been intact.

By the time the Baltimore and San Francisco fires came, such safe owners as banks had acquired more wisdom. Ample time was given for them to cool off. In most cases it was found that the paper money was dried and lifeless but still intact. Much of it went into circulation again; more of it was replaced by the government with new money.

The government does not profit at all when gold money is lost because it has an intrinsic value that is virtually the same as its face value. The profit on lost silver money depends on the cost to the government of the silver that goes into the dollar. When silver is above \$1.20 an ounce there is no profit. When it goes below a dollar the profit is considerable. On lost nickels and one cent pieces the profit is large.

So you roam around this chamber of memories, among your now useless possessions. Today there are things you need more than some of these relics. Maybe you are collecting coins and would give the whole garret-full for one you desire. Then why don't you sell these things? Other collectors are eager to buy them if they have any worth at all.

INDIAN CAMP SITE OF PAWNEE VILLAGE OF POSSIBLY FIVE
HUNDRED YEARS AGO IN REPUBLICAN VALLEY.

E. E. Blackman, curator of the Nebraska state historical society museum, has just returned from Franklin, Neb., where he spent several days reviewing the work of local archaeologists, who have become interested in some Indian village sites near here.

He reports that on the farm belonging to Mr. Dooley, southwest of Franklin, is an extensive Indian ruin where Mr. Spence and his associates have found many specimens of chipped flint and pottery. These specimens are scattered over a wide area. It appears that the Republican Pawnee, who lived in the valley of the Republican river from about 1450 to 1800, resided in small groups over a wide general area. It is noticed that the house sites are confined to the south slope of the numerous draws, they evidently lived in houses made of covering a pole frame with a grass thatch, similar to the huts still used by the Wichita Indians in Oklahoma.

Probably a dozen of these structures stood on the south slope of a draw, and a like group occupied a similar position but a short distance away, until an area nearly a mile square was covered in this manner.

A peculiar surface condition exists here: From some cause, not completely understood, the entire surface is covered in spots, with soil of a different color. This seems to be a wind deposit. Evidences are observed at the caved edges of the plateau near the north side of the small draw; then as they excavate farther into the bank, the house floor with its charcoal, ashes, broken bones and artifacts is disclosed under sixteen inches of wind moved soil which contains no evidences.

The field is rich in artifacts which are distinctively Republican Pawnee in type. One ruin area is four miles southwest of Franklin and another is about the same distance northeast. Chipped flint and potsherds have been found. A complete archaeological chart will be hard to make because of the overlaying earth, but Franklin will have in its new museum in the courthouse a splendid collection of arrows, spears, knives and scrapers. R. S. Douglas, who lives near this Indian site, has many specimens.

Near Bloomington other remains have been found. A. T. Hill, who discovered the ruin of the Pawnee village where Pike raised the Stars and Stripes in 1806, is diligent in the study of the region near Red Cloud. At Nelson, Neb., is another ancient Pawnee site which Mr. Straley studied many years ago. If diligence and applied effort, like that evinced at Franklin, can be prompted the entire length of the Republican valley, we shall soon be able to write the history of the Republican Pawnees, Mr. Blackman declares.

G. E. Pilquist writes: Another new burial ground discovered with finest specimens ever been found in state of Arkansas, Yell county, altogether a different race of Indians than has ever been found. Out of 8,000 pieces of pottery I've handled in past fifteen years I never saw any like this. The finest war points serrated with needle points, 150 of these, twenty-five pieces of odd shaped pottery, six large skinning knives, five pipes made of clay, one double bottle with three hollow legs attached to lower bottle, fine engraved work with red paint rubbed in design. Photos of double bottle, skinning knives, 150 war points, photos of other fine bottles. All this dug out of mounds and graves in April and May, 1928, now in collection of writer. Also one large copper plate.

HAS A REAL MUSEUM ON HIS GROUNDS.

Happy is the man who has his business and his hobby under one roof, or at least on one plot of ground. Such is the case of Henry Jenner, who conducts a zoo, picnic ground and museum at Loup City, Neb. Animals, mummies, jewels, statuary, weapons, snakes, paintings—he has them all and a lot more you can't think of. Most of them are in the park pavilion and the mummy house, available to the thousands of visitors who come to watch the monkeys and picnic on the green grass. The rest are at the building where he, his daughter and his brother, Robert, keep house.

He prefers word of mouth advertising to any other kind, and except for an annual catalog, publishes nothing about his collections. The townsfolk know about them, and other who are interested come to see them, and tell their friends, and so it goes. Sunday is the big day, people coming by the thousands.

The mummy house is of Egyptian architecture, and an Aztec idol guards a stairway to an enclosure bounded by various sorts of cactus. Skulls, bones and a shriveled head are among the more eerie exhibits, and there is plenty of jewelry, coins and more sprightly articles in other sections of the museum. A single page from the catalog lists these articles: Chinese coins and playing cards, sword of swordfish, saw of sawfish, seaweed, sponges and fish eggs from the North Sea, two old English forged bank notes, Daily Missouri Republican issued January 7, 1858; silk badges commemorating John Bell's candidacy against Lincoln, and the Temperance society formed in Washington's time; Mexican pack saddle and saddle bag, civet hide, Mexican leopard hide, Mexican pottery; marble Buddha from India. In the other sections are war relics, Indian, African and oriental curios, a large collection of pipes, another of shoes from many nations, and so on without end.

The identifying mark on every article in the museum is largely superfluous, the owner has found, for in the thirty years he has been collecting, he has been the victim of but one theft and one attempt at theft. A box of coins was recovered in a distant city, but half a dozen of them missing. Some young girls were fatally attracted by an Armenian necklace with gold inlay, but he retrieved his jewel and never told anybody.

He comes naturally by his taste for collecting, his father having been an antiquary in England and a close friend of the head of the mummy department at the British museum. He wears a green scarab in a gold ring which is a replica of one taken from the tomb of Rameses, given him by this official. While attending the University of London, young Henry spent his spare time helping his father or working about the British museum. When he and his brother came to America, however, their two sisters hardly knew what to do with the immense collection made by their father, and eventually it was sold, but a few pieces being kept. Among these was a Chinese poisoned saber. He has made several trips abroad in search of objects for his museum.

"I wish I had begun collecting Indian relics when I came to this country in 1883," he said the other day while visiting the state historical society museum, "but I had too much on my mind then. My brother and I came straight from London to Loup City, in answer to an advertisement of a company 'seeking pupils for ranching.' We bought out the farmer to whom we had been apprenticed, and eventually rented the farm. Now we make the park our main business.

"In the years that people have been coming to our place, I have learned to pick out every nationality. I find the German people the most interested in the museum, and the Danes and Swedes are also enthusiastic. Of course, England is a land of curios—every family has something from the ends of the earth. A funny thing. A few years ago I went back in search of cameos. They had been so common you could buy a good one for half a crown. I could find practically none this time, and it was because Americans had bought most all and taken them out of the country.

"We have a great many mummies, and in fact have enlarged the mummy house perhaps a third in the past year. There won't be many more, however, for it is now prohibited to bring anything out of Egypt. During the war, people tore the fine linen wrappings off of hundreds of mummies, to make paper.

"The interior of the mummy house is decorated in imitation of stalactites, mica and glass and sand being used in the walls. In one place you can see today a round piece of blue glass, all that is left of a dolphin candlestick. The craze for old glass hadn't begun when I ground up the rest of that candlestick to make my stalactites."

A curious article owned by Mr. Jenner is a rosary, every bead of it made from the skull of a monk who had lived in a monastery at Anjou, France. The Monastery was destroyed during the Franco-Prussian war.

Almost as curious in the animal line is an albino porcupine, the first ever produced at a porcupine farm in Maine that has been raising the prickly pets for twenty-one years. These animals are sold in numbers to circuses, parks and other institutions.

An albino fawn with blue eyes, a pink nose and only a few tan spots on its back, is one of the pets at the zoo. Mr. Jenner has a standing order with an animal ranch in Kansas for a white deer.

Snakes he obtains in numbers from San Antonio. They are left in their cages when winter comes, and by spring it is usually necessary to replenish the stock. Monkeys are favorites with the children while grownups are more interested in bald eagles, badgers, raccoons and pheasants of every type. There are even two buffalo on the place, some of the very few in Nebraska.

"Everything that's curious is grist for my mill," he said. "I visit museums whenever I have a chance, and never go to a strange town without making straight for the second hand shops and junk dealers. I've picked up a great many things in Lincoln.

"We alter and add to the museum every year, and put out a new book in April. Send for a copy. It has more different kinds of things in it than you can imagine. Come out and look it over. And see the country, too. It's wonderful. We can raise everything out there. And beautiful—well, I've been over pretty much of the world, and I'll take Nebraska for mine."

A true Nebraskan, then, this British-born collector whose hobby has kept him young and active out of all proportion to his years. Visits to the oculist are the only sign that time is catching up with him, and those bring him to Lincoln, so he really doesn't mind.—State Journal.

A 3 mark piece by the free city of Lubeck, commemorating its 700th anniversary as a free city and right to coin money. The city was formerly the capital of the Hanseatic League.

HISTORIC INDIAN WAR CLUB FOUND—GIFT OF IROQUOIS TRIBE TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

The New York museum of the American Indian has among the most interesting items lately acquired an Iroquois war club, which, for historical interest possibly exceeds any other object of its kind in the several collections.

This implement is nearly twenty-three inches in length. It is provided with a typical spherical head of a single piece of wood with the handle, inserted in which is a leaf-shaped blade of cast iron. On the handle are the following incised or burnt inscriptions and figures, in addition to some slight ornamentation.

"Watkonochrochquanyo Warraghiyagey." "Ogentaguete le camarade Jeanson." A row of thirteen joined human figures, each with a gun. A row of exploit marks designed to record the number of times the owner engaged in battle and whether or not he had been wounded.

The explanation of the first inscription as given by J. N. B. Hewitt of the Bureau of American Ethnology is "I present it to thee freely out of respect," and the weapon was presented to Sir William Johnson (1715-1774) when he was adopted by the Iroquois and given the name of "Warraghiyagey," by Johnson's friend, Ogentaguete.

The thirteen armed figures on the right side of the war club handle evidently signify the thirteen original colonies, or "Fires."

The row of exploit marks on the left side of the handle is characteristic of a custom of the Iroquois to record events, such as these represent, either upon their weapons or on a board kept in the lodge. As early as 1666 a record of such markings as employed by the Iroquois was made.

How the weapon found its way to England may only be conjectured—possibly it was taken there by Sir William's son John when he fled to Montreal in 1775 and embarked for the land of his father. At all events it lodged in course of time with an English collector to whom the inscriptions obviously had little, if any significance, and in turn was exchanged with an Abels collector who brought it to the museum.

NEW COMMEMORATIVE HALF DOLLAR

Congress has passed an act authorizing the issue of a commemorative half dollar on the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain James Cook, and for the aiding in establishing a Captain Cook memorial collection in the archives of the Territory of Hawaii. The coin will be sold by the Cook Sesqui-Centennial Commission of Hawaii, and the price will be \$2.00 per coin. The proposed designs are on obverse a profile bust of Captain Cook to left. The reverse shows a Hawaiian warrior chief in full regalia gaining the summit of a hill, holding out his right hand in welcome. The total authorized issue is only 10,000. The celebration in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the discovery of Hawaii by Captain James Cook will be held in Hawaii about the middle of August, 1928.

M. S.

OLD NEWSPAPER.

A. B. McCarty, a railroad conductor of Wymore, Neb., has a copy of "The Ohio Repository," a small 4-page daily published by John Saxton, at Canton, O., June 6, 1822. It is yellow with age, but otherwise in good condition, considering that it is 106 years old.

MEDALS THAT ARE REALLY COINS—FALLACY REGARDING RARE ROMAN CURRENCY.

The term "medallion" is correctly defined as a large medal and should not be applied to anything except portrait or commemorative medals of unusually large size. Unfortunately, the older numismatists and even the great authority, Henri Cohen, described as a medallion any Roman piece of larger module than the ordinary, thus confusing commemorative medals with coins of higher denominations than are usually in currency.

During the Roman Imperial period what we should call "commemorative" medals were sometimes specially struck in gold, silver, or orichalcum, for presentation to imperial and other personages, for the decoration of military standards, as examples of medallie art, and possibly for sale to the public. If we continue to use the term "medallion" it should be restricted to this class only, for these pieces never seem to have been current as coins, those of brass (orichalcum) being without the S.C. which indicates issue for currency by authority of the senate.

They are, in fact, medals, and should be so called. All of them are now so rare as to be practically unobtainable except when the dispersal of some notable collection throws a few on the market. Their high money value accounts for the deluge of forgeries and fakes that has been turned out on the continent for the last three centuries.

With these forgeries the small curio shops of Italy and France are well stocked. I have come across them under similar circumstances in London. Readers often send these frauds for report, but the genuine article is so rare that of the numerous specimens submitted in the last twenty-five years not more than three or four have turned out to be authentic.

Much oftener come across, but still of considerable rarity, are the misnamed "medallions" that are really large coins. Of these there is an extensive series of beautiful silver pieces struck in the Greek towns, but in Roman style and with Latin legends, which date from the time of Octavian to that of Hadrian.

The weight of these coins is more than that of three Roman denarii of the same period (on an average, about $3\frac{1}{4}$), but they are supposed to have been equivalent to three Greek drachms, so are usually called tridrachms though, possibly, they may have passed as tetradrachms. At any rate, they were certainly coins, and I have specimens struck at Apameia, Ephesus, Nicomedia, Pergamum and Smyrna, others being of uncertain mints of the Province of Asia.

Of Marcus Antonius there are cistophori, and these Roman coins were struck in many places where all the rest of the coinage was Greek. Another series of coins incorrectly described as medallions was issued in the reign of Trajanus Decius, who had circulated an \mathcal{A} E piece much larger than the sestertius, but which is unquestionably a coin and not a medal, for it bears S.C. Judging by weight this would be a 6-as piece, but the probability is that it was a double sestertius.

Its distinguishing mark is the radiate crown, by which the dupondius had been previously differentiated from the as, and the double-denarius (Antoninianus) from the denarius. This new denomination is rare under Decius but was a favorite one under Pastumus, in whose reign these so-called medallions were plentiful.

Yet another piece still described by dealers as a silver "medallion" is the millarense, or double siligua, introduced under Constantine's monetary reform and issued by many of his successors. This fine piece is of all reigns rare but that it was a current coin there is no doubt among collectors.

A third class of "medallions" are the contorniates, which were really pieces used in some game played on a stone table marked with divisions. They mostly date from the fourth century, and are medal-like pieces, usually with a groove as a border instead of a beaded circle. A certain sign, like a P on top of an E, often appears on them, this being supposed to indicate a special value in the game, which seems to have been a kind of backgammon, played with dice.

Cohen describes 400 contorniates, valuing them from 16s upwards. The types are of the highest interest, the abverses representing gods, philosophers, heroes, and an almost unbroken line of the emperors, many of whom had reigned some centuries before these contorniates were turned out. A particularly curious specimen was in the Laugier collection sold by Schulman of Amsterdam, in May, 1913.—Bazaar.

FIND BILLS—ONE FOR \$50, OTHER FOR \$60, DATED 1778.

Two Continental bills; one for \$50 and one for \$60, both dating back to September 26, 1778, have been discovered in an old book, belonging to Albert Laporte of 20 Washington avenue, North Cambridge.

Laporte got the book from his father, who is an antique furniture dealer. The book had been in the elder Laporte's collections for some ten years.

Bank authorities consulted by young Laporte declare that the bills are apparently genuine. Both state that the bearer is entitled to "Spanish milled dollars to the number stated on the face of the bill. Each is printed on a piece of heavy white note paper, about three by three and a half inches in dimensions. Signatures on the face are a bit blurred, but appear genuine.

On the back of the bills appears the information that the printing was done by "Hall and Sellers." The bills are apparently of the type known as "Continental," issued by the Continental Congress during the Revolution, and were noted at the time for their utter lack of value. They were responsible for the since-proverbial phrase "not worth a Continental.—Sent by Verry.

\$32,500 FOR A BOOK—COPY BOUGHT IN 1865 FOR \$315

More than \$210,000 was realized at the concluding day of the sale of Lord Leconfield's collection of Americana at London. Eight items alone fetching \$168,250.

Dr. Rosenbach, the Philadelphian, secured the chief lot, the Percy manuscript, for \$33,000, but the three next most notable lots fell to Mr. Dring of Messrs. Bernard Quaritch, Ltd. These were: Rich's News from Virginia, 8 leaves, \$32,500; Strachey's Virginia Britannia, \$31,250, and the Strachey Manuscript, \$30,000.

An interested spectator throughout the sale was Sir Frederic Kenyon, director of the British museum. After the sale he told a Mail reporter: "Extravagant is the only word that can be used regarding the present day bidding for Americana, and some idea of the tremendous increase in values that has occurred since I came to the museum can be gauged from the fact that our copy of Rich's News from Virginia, a copy of which today sold for \$32,500, cost only \$315 in 1865.

UNEARTHED INDIAN SPEAR HEADS—MOST POINTED NORTH

One of the largest collections of genuine Indian spear heads ever unearthed in the Connecticut valley was uncovered at North Hadley by Theodore Russell. The earth showed a quantity of small pieces of charcoal, and among this charcoal Mr. Russell saw a large spear head. He picked it up at once, for these heads are found only infrequently, and securing a shovel, he dug down in that vicinity, being rewarded by finding more than three hundred spear heads about two feet below the surface. Most of the heads were pointed towards the north.

Spear heads and arrowheads have been picked up in North Hadley occasionally ever since the place was settled, but not very often. In the years that Mr. Russell has been cultivating the land he has picked up about a dozen arrowheads and this is by far the largest find he has ever made. His grandfather found several spear heads which were carefully preserved as interesting curios, but Mr. Russell's latest discovery includes many remarkably good spear heads which surpass those previously picked up.

The spear heads vary in size from three to six inches and from one to two inches in breadth. They are all quite thin, the largest being not more than half an inch thick. Practically all of them are made of a dark gray stone, probably flint, and the general outlines are about the same. Several seem to be tomahawk heads rather than spear heads as the triangular piece of stone has a very sharp base similar to a hatchet. The workmanship is quite good, although by far the best piece of stonework is one of the spear heads picked up by Mr. Russell's grandfather, on which the markings are very fine. News of the find attracted many visitors, and Mr. Russell was kept quite busy during the morning describing the details of the discovery.—Parsons.

A BIG COIN EXHIBIT

W. W. Bishoff of Kansas has filled a display window with an assortment of coins and tokens, ancient and modern that includes mintage of practically every country and dynasty that is or has been on the globe. Uncle Sam's dollar still warm from the stamps, the "widow's mite" of the Scriptures and the "wheel money" of Gaul hammered out 500 years before Christ, are included.

In his collection are something over 2,000 distinct coins some of which, as stated, run as far back as five centuries B. C. The coins are classified and conveniently arranged as to eras, nationalities, and composition of metals. There are two plates—the plates carry about 200 coins each—of Roman mintage some of which date back to the period of Mark Anthony 43 B. C. A plate of bronze is shown that includes coin of the Claudius dynasty, 54 years before Christ. A plate of the coins and tokens of India representing many of its numerous provinces shows pieces made 200 years before the Christian era. One peculiar token of that era is a Grecian bronze ring, and another is a token designated as "hat money," so-called from its form. Another peculiar token is the "fish hook" money of the Arabians, 900 A. D., which really bears a closer resemblance to a cotter pin. Not the least interesting in the ensemble is a "widow's mite," a shekel of Judea coinage of A. D. 135. Also are shown plates of American monies from the time of the thirteen colonies to the present, and separate collections of the mintage of all the world countries, in bronze, silver and nickel from the seventeenth century down.

Mr. Bishoff is a member of the American Numismatic Society.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES

By Geo. J. Remsburg, Porterville, Calif.

The writer, in company with Mr. Harvey Munger of Porterville, Calif., recently made excavations in an ancient Indian mound in the Tulare Lake basin, about 14 miles southwest of Tulare, Calif., unearthing two skeletons in a bad state of decay. By carefully removing the earth the two skulls were taken out, partly intact. This mound had been partially explored before and several skeletons exhumed, together with shell, bone and stone beads, obsidian arrowheads and other objects. This mound stands on the bank of a dessicated slough and in the immediate vicinity of an ancient Indian camp site, from which we gathered beads, etc. The bodies interred in this mound evidently had been gathered from a battlefield and thrown together without any regularity. Both skulls had been crushed on the side, as if by a blunt weapon. In all probability they belonged to the Yokut tribe, which occupied the Tulare Lake region at an early period. The bones generally are in a bad state of decay.

We are in receipt of an interesting clipping from Mr. S. C. Bushnell of Ferguson, Mo., setting forth the discovery of Antonio Villacorta, Guatemalan archaeologist, that the aborigines of Guatemala migrated to that country from the Mississippi Valley. Senor Villacorta has spent years of study and research in arriving at this conclusion. He holds that these Indians, probably the Toltecas or Nahoas, as they were also called, came from Asia through Bering Strait into the Rocky Mountains, thence proceeded to California, where, near Tulare Lake, where the writer recently made some examinations as above stated, and there they built the famous city of Tulare. Continuing south, they came to the Mississippi valley, where they remained for centuries before they emigrated to the slopes of the Anahuac, whence they later went in three groups to Central America, where they united with Mayan tribes and built great cities and wonderful works of art.

Capt. John H. Seger, for many years connected with Indian school and welfare work, founder of the Indian training school at Colony, Okla., and author of "Tradition of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians," died at Colony, Okla., recently. Capt. Seger had gathered many Indian relics and was quite an authority on some of the western tribes.

A nine-months' quest in Brazil for a reputed tribe of "white" Indians resulted in the discovery of one lone light-complexioned Indian, who was so ill with malaria that no satisfactory study of his origin could be made, Dr. Herbert Spencer Dickey, head of the Dickey-Pathe ethnological expedition, reported upon his arrival on the Munson liner American Legion.

Dr. E. E. Dale, head of the history department of the University of Oklahoma, is an adopted member of the Blackfeet tribe of Indians. The Kansas City Star recently printed a fine picture showing Dr. Dale in his den surrounded by trophies of eleven western tribes.

The following from the Syracuse (N. Y.) Herald will interest many readers of the West to whom the name of Mr. T. O. Young is familiar and with whom they have had correspondence and dealings:

An exhibit of Indian stone and pottery work, consisting of pieces from the Thomas O. Young collection has been opened in the second floor lobby of the Syracuse public library. The exhibits are placed in four glass cases

and are of the more perfect and finer pieces of Indian work. One of the outstanding pieces in the exhibition is a carved bone pipe that is elaborately etched with the figures of fish and animals. The remainder of the collection is of the more familiar Indian type. One case is devoted entirely to the collection of arrows and spear heads which is unusually complete. A number of small choice arrow heads of glistening jasper are included with those of flint. A second case is devoted to stone axes, maces and chisels. All are of a granite stone, perfectly worked and highly polished. There are also several ancient iron tomahawk heads in the collection. The remainder of the collection is devoted entirely to bead and bone work. There are numerous necklaces of these in various colors and one breast pin of intricate design.

More than ever before now is the book-collector made aware of the upward trend of the value of the first editions, even of living authors' works. He is often, if he is wealthy enough, tempted to buy some of these first editions so alluringly described merely, probably, as a means of adding to his wealth. This is, without doubt, a perfectly legitimate way of making money, although the forcing up of artificial prices is undoubtedly an evil. It is clear, however, that many pits lie in front of the unwary and ill-informed collector, whether he be a real collector or a money-maker. Not only are there many fakes and forgeries for him to buy, but there are even more facsimiles and second and later issues of first editions, almost valueless in many cases, but which can legitimately be offered as first editions.

An extraordinarily good knowledge of books is necessary to anyone nowadays who really wishes to collect to any purpose. Most professions are more or less stereotyped. That is to say, a doctor or a lawyer has to follow more or less definitely laid down methods, but the profession of books is to a great extent vague and uncharted.—Bazar.

AN ENTERPRISING KANSAS COLLECTOR.

A very interesting display of Indian relics appears in the west window at the Woolley hardware store. They are donated by Vernon Lemley, who probably has the largest collection of Indian relics of anyone in this part of Kansas. The window is attracting a lot of attention.—Osborne County (Kan.) Farmer.

Mr. Lemley is well known to readers of the West. His home is at Osborne, Kan. He has been collecting for a number of years and his collection of Indian material is considered the best in the western half of Kansas. In addition to this he has a splendid collection of photos numbering 250 of western subjects such as Indians, scouts, frontiersmen, gun men, cowboys, outlaws, etc. He also collects along other lines. He is not only a very wide awake collector but a most congenial fellow.

Los Angeles is enjoying a spurt of coin collecting. The president of the American Numismatists' Association went out there and organized a branch club, there being so many ardent coin collectors in that city. Coin dealers say that the people are mighty ignorant about coins, and in many things are mighty ignorant. It is not the age of a coin but the scarcity that counts. A chap took a Spanish coin over 100 years old to a coin dealer and learned it was worth just 35 cents. The United States Penny of 1922 is valuable.

REV. SIMMS SECURES BIBLE THAT IS 339 YEARS OLD

Rev. P. Marion Simms of Broken Bow has for more than a quarter of a century been collecting old books and especially translations of the Bible, and he now has some 69 different translations. He has long wanted a Geneva Bible but they are rare and high priced. Some three or four months ago he was offered one from New York at \$200. This was called a bargain at the time.

The Geneva Bible was first issued in 1560, and Rev. Simms' copy was published in 1589 and is therefore 339 years old. He owns one book five years older, but it is not a Bible.

The Geneva Bible was made by refugees from England under Bloody Morey and it was put out at Geneva, Switzerland. It was made by Calvinists and contained many notes, which made it the Bible of a party. It passed through more than 140 editions and became the Bible of the common people of England. It was the Bible of Shakespeare—all his quotations are from it—the Bible of Bunyan and the Bible of Cromwell's army. It had more influence in making the King James version than any other Bible. It is often known as the "Breeches Bible" because Gen. 3:7 reads, "They sewed fig tree leaves together and made themselves breeches."

This is the most valuable book of Rev. Simms' collection and he prizes it very highly, more especially since it is the gift of a friend.

A ROYAL NUMISMATIST

By a strange coincidence, on the same day as the bomb outrage against the life of King Victor Emmanuel in Milan there appeared on the bookstalls of Rome the new and final volume of this Royal numismatist's colossal history of the Italian coinage: *Corpus Numorum Italicorum*.

The king, who is one of the greatest living authorities on numismatics, has also one of the finest coin collections in existence. His passionate interest in coins earned for him the derision of Mussolini in the days when that full-blooded patriot was dabbling in socialism and demanding a president for Italy instead of a bourgeois king. One of the favorite nicknames which he used in his articles and speeches to belittle the king was "Old Numismate."—London paper.

LINCOLN LETTER BRINGS LARGE SUM

Philadelphia—An autographed letter of Abraham Lincoln, referring to the application of the Emancipation Proclamation brought \$2,900 at an auction sale of the E. F. Strickland collection of autographed letters and documents.

A Lincoln letter, in which the president declined to interfere with the New York mayoralty election, brought \$550 and a third letter in which Lincoln ordered out the New York militia to suppress the draft riots was sold for the same price.

Few book collectors have valuable books thrown at their heads. But that is what happened to Dr. Ehrenfelt, a lawyer of Vienna, in 1851. He was a student, wrestling with a companion, and a book was thrown at him in play. He pocketed it, and many years later discovered that it was the first book in the Magyar language, printed in 1430. It brought more than \$5,000 recently at auction in England.

Coins of the late Roman period show that women had elaborately marcelled hair.

HAS RARE BOOKS.

Rare folios of Shakespeare's plays are included in a collection of twenty-two items purchased by L. A. Krigbaum, Evergreen, Colo., while in London recently. The entire collection, one of the most complete ever brought here, cost \$20,000.

Probably the most valuable single item of the collection is a copy of the fourth folio of Shakespeare, one of the eight or ten in existence, Krigbaum said. This edition was printed in 1685 at the order of one Joseph Knight. After a few had been published Knight and the publisher came to a misunderstanding and the edition ceased.

Krigbaum also obtained one of the six existing copies of the King Lear and Merchant of Venice chapters of the first edition of Charles Lamb's "Tales from Shakespear." This was printed in 1808 and is valued at \$3,500.—Beals.

GOLD HALF DOLLAR.

After the discovery of gold in California, coins of various denominations were issued either by the state or by private individuals. Among the coins were gold half-dollars and gold quarter-dollars. At first the coins were round, but later many were made octagonal. The 1855 gold half-dollar has an Indian head with 13 stars and was eight-sided. As it was not an official coinage no record was kept of how many were issued.

If you happen to have a "grand" you may be fortunate in one other respect besides the possession of so much money. There are only twenty-one \$1,000 national bank notes in circulation, the report of the comptroller of the currency shows.—Beals.

STUDENTS DIG RELICS—EXPLORE ANCIENT RUINS UNDER GUIDANCE OF DR. R. F. GILDER.

With Dr. Wettstone and Prof. Kuhn of the U. of Omaha, a party of seven men and three women, members of the history class of the university, put into practice some of the teachings of their professor, Dr. Robert F. Gilder, whom they accompanied on a hike to the Dr. Swoboda farm.

They worked over a prehistoric house ruin and took out a number of implements and pieces of pottery, flint and a pottery smoking pipe, said to be the smallest of its kind in existence. The material obtained will be placed in a case at the university and supplements from time to time with other relics of the pre-historic peoples who inhabited what is now Nebraska.

INSECT COLLECTION GIVEN K. U. BY LAWRENCE MAN.

Lawrence, Kan.—Warwick Benedict, a resident of Lawrence has in his collection more than ten thousand species of coleoptera. This valuable collection, he feels, will be of greater use to science if it is incorporated in the general coleoptera collection of the university.

Mr. Benedict has offered to take up the revision of the entire collection of the university, incorporating his own material as the university material is re-arranged. He has also signified his intention of giving his group to the department of entomology upon his death. This collection is valued at the highest price of any similar collection in the world, according to faculty members.

To the Man in the Street.—It begins to look as if the government instead of making smaller new bills has decided to make fewer of the big ones.

NOTES FROM EVERYWHERE.—By S. P. Hughes.

The recent finding of three mummies on one of the Aleutian islands has revived the old theory that there was at one time a regular migration of a long forgotten race between eastern Asia and western America. Many finds have been made in America that lend much strength to the belief that the American Indian was a direct descendant of the Asiatic races.

Some years ago the writer's son uncovered a stone cairn in the Big Horn canyon of Wyoming, in which six bodies had been placed and then after covering them with dry sand, the tiny cave or cairn was walled up with rock. A number of very fine stone artifacts were found associated with the bones, and scientists at once pronounced them of Asiatic types, and not unlike the flint implements found in northern China. A part of the material has been placed in the state university museum, where it will be at all times available for study and examination by students.

Collectors of the old issues of Nebraska bank bills have often wondered at the number of banks that in the long ago, were operating from DeSoto, and is this especially true of the collector who can not even find the name on the maps. DeSoto was one of the early Missouri river towns above Omaha and in the early days was a town of considerable importance. Located on the river plain five miles above the original site of Council Bluffs, the town had at one time every promise of making a city; but Omaha became the outfitting town for western freighters and migration and DeSoto began to decline. Old records of the town's early history leads one to believe that the town had at one time several hundred inhabitants and the several banks that issued these early bills. The town at present consists of a tiny store, post office and oil station combined in one building, with a combined population of three souls, a man, his wife and child.

The postmaster recently told the writer, that he quite often gets letters from the east asking about these old bills, and asking if any bank of the town will redeem them at their face value.

While on the subject of bills, it may not be amiss to state that the writer is still making an effort to complete the Nebraska issues for the State Historical Society. The collection lacks quite a few of the bills in the various letters of the series. While the bills are quite common as a rule collectors who have any seem to be of the opinion that because they are from Nebraska they must be rare. The collection now numbers about 150 from all the different banks, except some of the missing letters. There is a small amount of cash available for the purchase of such bills as may be needed, and perhaps one hundred duplicates available for exchange purposes.

One of the best known of American dealers has returned to the United States after spending, so it is reported, the huge sum of over a million dollars in a brief matter of three weeks, on European works and antiques. To put it more vividly he has, in effect, for three weeks been steadily writing out checks for antiques of the Old World to the value of nearly \$2,000 every hour. He even goes further than this. He claims that he and his father, whose huge bids for treasures at London sales are one of the attractions of big sales, have already spent this year between them over \$5,000,000 in Europe alone. If this is the record of but two American dealers, what gigantic sums can we imagine for the total spent by all of them together, the Rosenbachs, the Sesslers, the Knoedlers and the many others?—Bazar and Mart.

INDIAN LORE, ANCIENT AND OTHERWISE.—By W. Straley.

The delegates attending the Methodist Episcopal general conference at Kansas City, Mo., in May were treated to a visit to the old Shawnee mission, where the early missionaries worked among the Indians in an early day. Charles H. Burke, commissioner of Indian affairs spoke, and the Haskell Institute band and girls' chorus provided music for the occasion. An exhibit of relics representing chapters in story of mission work among the Indians was on display.

An article in the South Bend (Ind.) News-Times by John J. Becker says of Carl Busch, a musical composer of Kansas City: "In all of the compositions of Busch, whether they be based upon Indian themes or themes of his own invention, one finds a deep musical feeling, a broad musical knowledge and a great craftsmanship. He is a poet of the romantic school. The thing which fascinates him in the study of the American Indian is the element of romance which attaches itself to Indian life. The romance of the great outdoors, the romance of the wide expanse of prairies, the great lakes at night and the mysterious light of the stars' reflection. * * * Any composer today who tries to treat Indian themes in the same manner with the hope of developing them in an original way is treading upon dangerous ground, for Carl Busch has, as far as music is concerned, exhausted the possibilities of idealizing further the romantic side of Indian life."

Recently Mr. E. E. Blackman, curator of the Nebraska State Historical society museum, Lincoln, Neb., visited a number of Indian campsites near Franklin, Neb., viz: One on the W. A. Dooley farm southwest of town, Lookout Mountain, the stone-lined graves southeast of town, Center Creek, northwest of town, and the J. B. Williams and former S. T. Doherty farms northeast of town. After a survey of the localities and an examination of the artifacts found on the various sites, Mr. Blackman was led to believe that the Pawnees formerly occupied the sites visited. Mr. Blackman is well versed in Pawnee Indian lore, having studied the history and made research into the folk-lore of that tribe for over thirty years.

Several interesting Indian pictures in natural colors embellish an article entitled "Photographing the Marvels of the West in Colors," by Fred Payne Chatworth in the June number of the Geographic magazine.

According to an American Press dispatch Cornelius Osgood of Chicago, will spend two years and a half in the Arctic regions and live most of the time with Hareskin Indians to obtain material for a thesis. His explorations will be under the direction of the National Museum of Canada.

Alfonso Cass, archaeologist, and Miguel O. de Mendizabel, ethnologist, will head a party of investigators who will explore the ancient city of Monte Alban, near Oaxaca, Mexico. Ruins and relics on the site lead the members of the party to anticipate a season of successful and gratifying exploration.

Hugh S. Cumming, surgeon general of the United States public health service, speaking of liver for food, remarked: "For generations the fact that American Indian hunters always chose the liver and the white men the meat when the animals they had trapped or killed were divided, was quoted as proof of their ignorance and primitive development. Yet in the last five years the great nutritive value of liver has come to be recognized and it is prescribed in cases of anaemia."

A recent issue of the Milwaukee Journal says: "A large Indian ceremonial pipe, one of the most unusual ever found in Wisconsin, has been

placed in the state historical museum at Madison, Wis. The pipe was found in a gravel knoll on the shore of Lake Kashkonong. It is known as an effigy platform pipe and is carved out of crinoidal limestone. It is six inches high, seven inches long and weighs nearly six pounds. * * * The pipe consists of a thick circular disc mounted on a broad platform base, before which is a kneeling female figure with its back touching the disc. On the top of the disc is the deep conical bowl of the pipe, and just below it is a cavity cut for insertion of the stem.

NUMISMATIC NOTES.—By M. Sorensen.

Many London banks possess collections of old bank notes, practically valueless as exchange, but much sought after by collectors. The finest examples of old English notes are to be seen at the Institute of Bankers, in Bishopsgate, London, which contains thousands of notes issued during the past two centuries. In this collection are examples from the original Bank of England 1 pound and 5 pound issues, a Bank of Scotland note dated 1731 for 12 pounds Scots (1 pound sterling), a note for 13 pence Irish (1 shilling sterling), which was issued in 1804 by a Cork grocer, Dennis O'Flynn, and a 5 pound note issued by the Corporation of Liverpool in 1794. Other curiosities are notes for 5 shillings and 2 shillings and 6 pence issued by the Birmingham poorhouse, and others issued by a Wednesbury manufacturer redeemable in pounds of rod iron.

A bona fide \$30 bill is held by Bernard L. Hoppe of New Britain, Conn. Local banking houses pronounce it authentic, and Hoppe has refused many times its face value. The note, dated Sept. 26, 1778, and signed by "A Lawrence, Secretary of the United States Treasury," is numbered 217,305. It is about one-fourth the size of a modern dollar bill.

The Fascist emblem is a bundle of rods or sticks bound about a battleaxe. Turn up the "tails" of a United States dime and you find the counterpart of the Fascist emblem. The underlying idea in the name is, in effect, "In union there is strength." Ancient Rome originated the emblem; the United States and fascism copied it. The official mace of our House of Representatives is also the same as the Fascist emblem.

ITALY'S NEW COIN TO BEAR MOTTO OF PIAVE INFANTRYMAN.

"Better to live one day like a lion than a hundred years like a sheep." This saying by an unknown infantryman of the Piave campaign will be inscribed on the new 20-lire silver piece which is to be struck in Italy to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the war victory.

The Fascist emblem of the axe and lictor's rods will figure in the design with the dates 1918-1928 and the "Year VI." of the Fascist era. The value of the issue will be 500,000,000 lire, or about five and a quarter million pounds.

KINGS COLLECT COINS

That kings are collectors of rare coins has been revealed in connection with work done by the King of Italy in publishing a series of books on the coins of Italy. His personal collection of 100,000 specimens is the largest in the world. King George of England also has a large collection and other rulers are said to have taken a keen interest in the subject.—Gossip.

Eggs are used as currency in some parts of Russia. Though, we presume the currency has the paradox of growing weaker as it grows stronger.

COINS AND STAMPS

Austria, Crown, Leopold, the hog-mouth, 1693	\$2.50	Italy, 20 centesimi, 1 lira, 2 lira...	.20
Austria, commemorative, marriage of Francis Joseph and Elizabeth, Apr 24, 1879	2.50	France ½-1-2 francs, Oroid .....	.25
Austria-Hungary, 5 kronin 1900-1909, various dates, each	1.25	France, 5-10-25 centimes, nickel...	.10
Austria-Hungary, 5 kronin 1848-1908, commemorating 60 years reign of Francis Joseph	1.25	Panama, ½-2 1-2 centesimos, nickel .....	.10
Bavaria, 5 marks, 1875-1907, many dates, each	1.10	Germany, 1-2-5-10 pfenning .....	.10
Bolivia, 8 sueldo, 1834-1838, each ..	1.25	China, 3 diff. size, cash .....	.10
Brazil, 960 reis, 1814-1819, each ..	1.25	Brazil, 50-100-200 reis, nickel ....	.20
China, dollar, yuan shi-ki	1.50	Belgium, 5-10-20 centimes, nickel ..	.15
Brunswick, 24 marlen grochen, 1694	2.00	Cuba, 1-2-5 cents, nickel .....	.15
Chile, 1 peso, 1872-1876, each	1.10	Hungary, 10-20 filler, nickel ....	.08
Columbia, 8 reals, 1820	1.50	Austria, 10-20 heller, nickel ....	.08
Cuba, peso, 1915-16, each	1.25	Germany 5-10 pfenning, iron ....	.08
England, Bank of England Dollar, 1804	1.75	Sweden, 1-2-5 ore copper .....	.10
England, crown, 1887-1893, each	1.50	Turkey, 3 diff. size, nickel coins...	.15
France, 1 ecu, 1747-1783, many dates, each	1.25	Palestine, 1-2-5-10 mills, copper and nickel, handsome, new coins .....	.35
Germany, 5 marks, commemorative, Fred. I, 1701, Wm. II, 1901 ..	2.00	Greece, 5-10-20 lepti, nickel .....	.15
Germany, 5 marks, 1902-1913, many dates, each	1.00	Roumania, 5-10 bani, nickel .....	.10
Hong-Kong Dollar, 1911	1.25	Roumania, 1-2 lei, nickel .....	.15
Italy, 5 lira, Napoleon, 1808-1813, each	1.35	Argentina, 5-10 centavos, nickel...	.10
Italy, 5 lira, 1872-to '76, each	1.15	Uruguay, 2-5 centesimos, nickel ..	.10
Japan, 1 yen	1.00	Russia, ½-1 kopeck, copper, 10-15-25 kopecks, silver .....	.35
Kwang-Tung, 7 Mace and 2 Candareens, gold plated	1.50	Russia, 10-15-25 kopecks, silver ..	.25
Liucca, Scvdo, 1744, St. Martin offering cloak to beggar	3.00	Russia, ½-1-2 kopecks, copper, 10-15-25 kopecks, ½-1 ruble, silver	1.25
Meckelburg-Schwerin, 2-3 marks 1808	1.00		
Peru, 1 sol. 1884-1926, many dates, each	1.00		
Peru, 8 reals, 1825-1828, each	1.25		
Philippine Islands, 1 peso, 1897-1904, each	1.10		
Porto Rico, 1 peso, 1847-1904, ea...	1.25		
Prussia, 5 marks, 1825-1904, each ..	1.00		
Prussia, 1 thaler, 1818	1.00		
Russia, 1 ruble, the late Czar, many dates, each .....	.65		
Free City of Hamburg, 5 marks, many dates, each	1.25		
Wurtemberg, 5 marks, many dates each	1.25		
Stiely, 120 grani, 1836	1.50		
Spain, 8 reals, pieces of 8, many dates before 1800, each	1.00		
Sweden, 1 Riksdaler, Gustavus III, 1776	2.50		
Venezuela, 1 peso, 1910-12, each ..	1.10		
Special: 10 foreign crowns, my selection, all different	8.50		

COINS IN SETS.

12 uncirculated foreign Coins, all different .....	.25
100 foreign, copper, nickel and silver coins, all different.....	3.75
Austria, 1 and 2 dollars, copper ..	.10
Austria, 1-2-10 kreutzer, copper and nickel10
Italy, 5-10-20 centesimi, copper and nickel10

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Large Cents, 10 diff. dates, some over 100 years old	1.00
Copper Nickel Cents, 1857-64 inclusive, 8 dates50
3 Cents, nickel, 10 diff. dates	1.00
Old Dimes, 10 diff. dates	1.75
Nickel 5 Cent pieces, old type, 5 diff. dates .....	.65
Old ¼ Dollars .....	.40
Old ½ Dollars .....	.65
Trade Dollars, getting scarce	1.10
Civil War Cents, 12 different	1.00
Dollars, Liberty seated	1.50
Gold Dollars, ex. fine condition ..	3.00
Gold 2½ Dollars, old types, ex. fine condition	3.50
Gold 3 Dollars	6.50
Large Cent, Flying Eagle Cent, Copper Nickel Cent, 2 Cent piece, 3 Cents, nickel, 3 Cents, silver, old Nickel, ½ Dime, Civil War Cent and Hard Time Token, set of 10 coins, special..	1.00
1922 D. Cent, uncirculated35

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Dollars, 1869, 70, 71, 72, 79 2.00
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Trades, 1876, 78, 80, 82, proofs .. 2.00
Trades, 1877, 78, 80 uncirc. 1.50
Halves, 1807, 8, 9, 12, 18, fine 1.50
Halves, 1822, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, fine 1.00
Halves, 1830, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, fine 1.00
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ington, Stone Mountain 1.00
Lincoln, Grant, Pilgrim 1920 and
21, Oregon Trail, Bennington.. 1.10
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guenot \$1.50, Calif. \$2, Hawaii 3.00
Missouri and Vancouver, each .. 5.00

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Quarters, 1820 21, 25, 28, fine.... 1.00
Quarters, 1834, 5, 6, 7, 40, 3, 4, 9.. .75
" 1853 to 59, 61, 2, 4, 5, 7350
" 1870, 71, 76, 77, 78, 79, unc.75
" 1880, 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, proof .. 1.00
Quarters, 1891 to 99, 1900, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 950
Quarters, 1910, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 .. .50
Dimes, 1883, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 98, 9920
1906, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 18, 21, fine .20
Half Dimes, 1840, 7, 8, 53, 4, 6, 7, 8, fine15
1860, 1, 2, 70, 1, 2, 3, fine15
Three Cents, 1851, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 60, 1, 220

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15 3c nickel, last century, unc. .. 3.00
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8 2c bronze, fine60
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circ. 3.00
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14 Bronze D mint, 1911 to 26, unc. 1.00
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20 1837 Hard or Jackson Tokens 3.00
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20 Medals, copper, some large .. 1.50
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1921 Pilgrim, unc.	1.35
1922 Grant No Star, unc.	1.35
1923 Monroe, unc.	1.25
1924 Huguenot, unc.	1.95
1921 Alabama Cross, unc.	1.75
1921 Missouri Star, unc.	3.25
1925 Stone Mountain, unc.	1.00
1925 Lexington, unc.	1.25
1925 California, unc.	1.75
1925 Norse American, unc.	1.50
1926 Oregon Trail P-Mint unc.	1.25
1926 Oregon Trail, S-Mint-unc.	1.40
1927 Vermont, unc.	1.25

OTHER COMMEMORATIVE COINS

1900 Washington-Lafayette Dollar, unc.	4.25
1922 Grant Gold Dollar Star, unc.	4.50
1922 Grant Gold Dollar, No Star, unc.	4.25
1926 Sesqui-Centennial \$2.50 Gold, unc.	4.50

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1915 Lusitania Death selling tickets at Cunard office, rev. ship sinking, American make, bronze, unc., size 57 mm	1.25
1922 Grant, commemoration of the centenary of the General, rev. birthplace, Point Pleasant Ohio, brass, unc., size 32 mm.	.35
1909 Lincoln Medal, aluminum, nude bronze bust of Lincoln, king No. 337, size 32½ mm., unc.	.75
5 diff. Civil War Store Cards, V. G. to V. F.	.60
1863 Gustavus-Lindenmueller, Ex. F. 25c; V. F.	.20
\$50.00 California, imitation Gold Slug, 1850, unc.	1.00

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Septimus Severus, A. D. 146-211, Ex. F.	1.75
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Gordianus Pius III, A. D. 222-244, Ex. F.	1.10
Caracalla, A. D. 183-217, Ex. F.	1.85
Julia Maesa, A. D. 222, Ex. F.	1.25
Julia Mamaea, A. D. 235, Ex. F.	1.25
Otacia Severa, wife of Philip I, Ex. F.	1.65
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---------------------------	-----

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25c Washington, unc. crisp	.70
50c Washington, unc. crisp	1.15

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5c Clark, unc. crisp	.50
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5c Clark, plate letter A at left side, unc. crisp	.75
10c Washington, red back, nice wide margin, sig. Colby & Spinner, unc. crisp, beauty, rare	2.45
10c Washington, red back, autograph sig. Colby & Spinner, Register & Treasurer also in ink, unc. crisp, very rare	3.25
10c Washington, unc.	.45
50c Justice, red back, autograph sig. of Colby & Spinner, Register & Treasurer, also in ink, unc. very rare	3.75
50c Spinner Red back, autograph sig., unc. rare	3.75
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50c Justice, unc.	1.35

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50c Lincoln, unc. rare, \$1.35; Ex. F.	.95
50c Stanton, unc. crisp	1.10
50c Dexter, unc. 95c; Ex. F.	.80

FIFTH ISSUE

10c Meredith, short key, unc.	.38
10c Meredith, long key, unc.	.45
10c Meredith, green seal, rare, unc. 75c; Ex. F. 50c; V. F. 35c; F.	.30
25c Walker, long key, unc.	.50
25c Walker, short key, unc.	.65
50c Crawford, unc.	.95

CONFEDERATE CURRENCY

100.00 Train of cars, 1861, written date, hundred in green, v. rare fine \$1.95; v. fine, \$2.50, unc.	3.85
\$50.00 Pallas & Ceres, 1861 writ. date, fifty in green, beautiful note, very rare, unc.	2.85
\$100.00 Train of cars, 1862, straight steam unc.	.15
\$2.00 Bust of Benjamin, 1863, unc.	.10
50c Davis, 1863, unc.	.04
\$20.00 Nashville Capitol, 1863, V. F. 11c; unc.	.17
\$5.00 Richmond Capitol, 1863, unc.	.09
\$10.00 Columbia, S. C. Capitol, 1863, unc.	.10
\$1.00 Bust of Clay, unc. 1863	.10
50c Bust of Davis, 1864, unc.	.04
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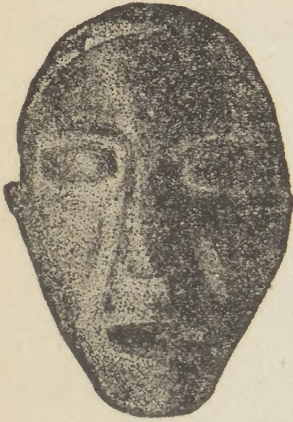
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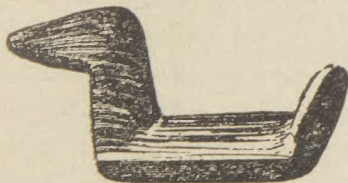
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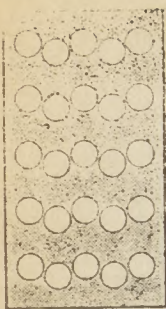
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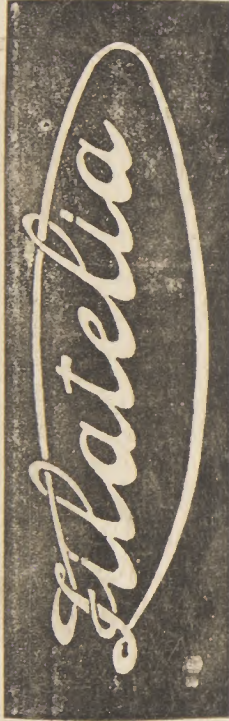
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